

Bethesda Baptist Church

REFLECTIONS

"Reflecting God's Love to Others"

Vol. 43

No. 4

Monthly Publication

April, 2024



Family Game Day

Sunday, April 21st at 3:00 pm. Bring the family and snacks. Games will be provided, but you may bring a favorite to play if you have one.



Do this in Remembrance of Me



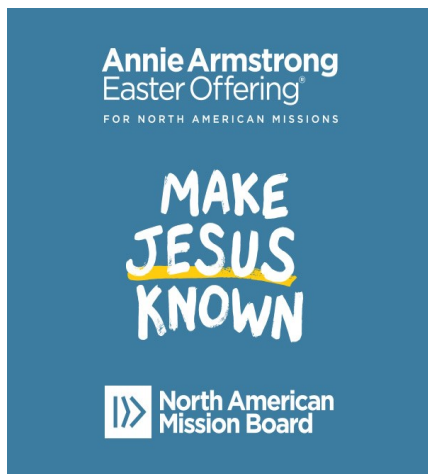
DEACON
Ordination
Service

April 7th is a special day at Bethesda. During morning worship service, we will observe the Lord's Supper and the ordination of Bill Taggart as a deacon.



CHURCH Picnic

Join us for the Church Picnic following the morning worship service on **May 19th**. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the church. Please think about sides, desserts or drinks you'd like to bring. Sign up sheet coming soon.



Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering®
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

MAKE
JESUS
KNOWN

North American
Mission Board

Goal \$4,000
Received to date: \$2,536.01



Join us on **May 25th** from 10 am - 2pm for an antique car show and craft shopping! To register or for more info visit: <https://bbcburleson.org/carcraftshow/>

Reflections from our Pastor

Dear BBC Burluson Family,

Here we are in April already. It seems like Christmas was just yesterday, and it's coming around again pretty quick. We will run into the Summer and skip into the Fall, only to find Winter again. I know that I used to think I would never grow up or be older to get to do what looked like everyone else could do. Now, looking back at the clock as it continues to spin, there is no way to slow it down.

That got me to thinking about the mission we are on. Jesus presented the disciples with the plan for sharing the good news of the Messiah. The account is found in the book of Matthew. Specifically, chapter 28:16-20. Look with me at it: Matthew 28:16-20 reads, "¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. ¹⁷When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.'" Amen."

Something that is interesting to me is the similarities of the disciples and us, even in today's world. The account that is recorded here is after the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. The disciples are going to gather at the mountain to see Jesus and His resurrected body. If you remember, Jesus taught the disciples about the Kingdom that He would set up. He also said that it would not be a worldly Kingdom. Obviously, the disciples were still confused.

In verse 17, there is a word used here that seems to trip people up. It is the word doubted. For you and I, we might read that (without study) and decide that they didn't believe. The Greek word for doubt is *distazo*, at least that is how it is pronounced. It means to waiver or hesitate. The disciples didn't have any doubt in who Jesus is, what His mission is, or anything like that. They were hesitant in the identity of the person showing up on the mountain as Jesus. Maybe the best way to look at it is like they were skeptical. Again, they knew Jesus, they followed Him, and understood His message. Even with that knowledge, they still hesitated.

Do you also find yourself in that place from time to time? If you want to see more similarities to the disciples, most of you have had an opportunity to read the Bible. It is God's love story to us, but also an account of what Jesus did for humanity, and more individually; you. You know that the Bible includes some 8810 promises in it, most of which is God's promise to each of us. We might even find peace, and hopefully hope in each of these. And then, when life's circumstances seem to catch up with us all at one time, we begin to think that God might not have our best interest in mind.

The hard part with this is that we know God absolutely has our best interest at heart. And, even through the trial, God is walking with us and will deliver us from harm. We know that, but we find ourselves hesitating to completely embrace our faith and move forward. Look, I know that we can talk a big game, but faith is only built on the battlefield of life. God's desire is to bless us. Make no mistake about that, it is to bless us. Are you willing to trust Him? Even through the trial!

Allen

Greetings from our Family Pastor

Church family, I'm excited to write my first note to you as your associate pastor of families. God is moving at Bethesda Baptist church, and I'm excited to be apart of it. Jordan and I look forward to getting to know you more and serving alongside you as we reach the community for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

As we look ahead to the summer we have several upcoming events. First, we have a family picnic on May 19th. We will have hamburgers, hotdogs and games, please plan to bring a side. We invite you to wear picnic attire to church that Sunday and invite all of your family and friends to join us on this amazing Sunday of fun for the whole family.

Secondly, we will have VBS on July 15-18. The times are from 6-8:30pm, Monday -Thursday with a family night on Thursday evening! The theme for this year is "What a Mess!" Jesus loves messy people and that is great news for us because we are all messy people with messy lives. However to make this possible, we need your help! We need teachers, assistants, recreation, crafts, snacks, multimedia, tear down help at the end of the week, we need it all! If you are available, volunteer sign-up is in the entry way and is also available online through the church website. Even if you are not available that week, we will have many opportunities for you to help with preparations and follow-up. We will need food donations. Stay tuned for more information soon. Any help that you can provide will be more than appreciated. Come join us as we plant gospel seeds in children's hearts and also have a lot of fun in the process!

Jeremy

MONTHLY REPORT

| SUNDAY SCHOOL | March 2024 Monthly Average |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Adults | 43 |
| Youth | 3 |
| Children | 4 |
| Extension | 4 |
| Visitors | 3 |
| TOTAL | 57 |
| YEAR AGO | 60 |
| ENROLLED | 97 |
| A.M. WORSHIP | 71 |
| ONLINE WORSHIP | 27 |
| TOTAL WORSHIP | 98 |

| BUDGET | Budget As of 03/24/24 |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Weekly Needs - \$6,559.20 | |

MONTH-TO-DATE

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Budget Needs | \$26,236.80 |
| Budget Received | 32,486.48 |
| Designated | 4,007.40 |
| Total Receipts | \$36,493.88 |

YEAR-TO-DATE

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Budget Needs | \$77,047.12 |
| Budget Received | \$82,287.85 |
| Over | \$5,240.73 |

IN LOVING MEMORY A donation has been given to the church Bereavement Fund in memory of Mark Stevens from the Sunshine Class.

NOTES

Bethesda Church Family,
Thank you so much for the prayers, plant and love you have shown me since the passing of my son, Mark.
Love, Faye Stevens

Dear Bethesda,
Thanks so much for the kindness shown to my family during the passing of my son, Bobby Douglas.
Lynda McClure

Bethesda Baptist Church,
I want to say thanks for the gift you gave to The Center for Ministerial Health at Texas Baptist. That gift is going to be used to support a minister's wife retreat. Alicia would be so thrilled! Thank you also for all your prayer and support you have shared in these difficult days. Again, let me say, Thank You! I miss y'all and love Bethesda Baptist Church.
Blessings, Dan Curry

Music Notes



Hymn story by Bill Dagle

The title of this song is "In the Garden" and was written by C. Austin Miles in a most unlikely place. Miles was an editor and manager of music publishing firms in Philadelphia and Winona Lake, Indiana (headquarters for Billy Sunday). Along with his editorial duties, Miles had developed an interest in photography to the extent of even building his own darkroom. It would be in the darkroom in March of 1912, just before Easter, that the Lord met with this photographer and gave him the words of this hymn in a very unusual way. In his own words, this is how the hymn was born: "One day as I waited for some film to develop, I picked up my Bible which fell open to the Gospel of John, chapter 20. I began to read the story of Jesus and Mary on resurrection morning. As I read it, I seemed to be transported to the actual garden and I became a silent witness to that dramatic moment. I saw the very movements. I heard the very words of Mary as she thought she was talking to the gardener: and I heard Jesus say, 'Mary,' after which I saw her kneel before her Lord and say, 'Rabboni!' Under the inspiration of that holy moment I wrote the poem as it appears today and that evening I added the music." The hymn soon grew in popularity as good friend Homer Rodeheaver used the song over and over again in Billy Sunday meetings across the land and remains today as one of the favorites of Christians round the world:

I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses;
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing.

And the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.

I'd stay in the garden with Him though the night around me is falling,

but He bids me go; through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling.

Chorus: And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own.

And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

Have a great week,

Chris

Bethesda Baptist Church
P.O. Box 756
Burleson, TX 76097-0756

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

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Burleson, TX 76028

ROMANS 15:13 NIV

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

Pastor—Allen Christopherson
Music Minister—Chris Wright
Assoc. Pastor of Families—Jeremy Dudley

CHURCH PHONE — 817-295-4632
FAX NUMBER — 817-295-7631
E-MAIL ADDRESS —
bethesdabaptist05@sbcglobal.net
WEB SITE — www.bbcburleson.org

PLEASE



REMEMBER
TO PRAY FOR...

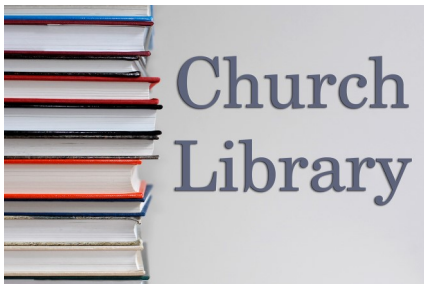
G.W. & Betty Bain
Mayce Ball
Jerry & June Boelter - Morada
#509
Rob Bruner
Barry Calicott-knee surgery
recovery
Elizabeth Clark
Roger & Goldie Clements
William & Marilyn Colyer
Monica Dameron

Velden and Fran Fothergill - Morada
Barbara George - Morada #209
Carolyn Groves
Bob and Leisa Hardin
Dorothea Hargett - Heritage Place #604
Dale and Ellie Lambert
William & Judy Lucky - Morada
Laura Moncrief & Family
Johnny and Norma Myers
Keith Rogers
Jordan & Becky Saucedo

Emily Schlotzhauer
Nancy & Rodney Schlotzhauer
Johnny Sherwood - Morada
#201
Ellon Wallace
Chris & Mary Ann Wright -
Chris surgery recovery
Missionaries
America
Servicemen & 1st Responders

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” Matthew 5:4 We extend our Christian sympathy to the following families:

Johnny and Norma Myers in the passing of her sister, Kathy.



Do you know that we have a library? The library is located in the choir room. Please take a minute to check it out - might find a book or two you'd like to read!