

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

I thought I would take this opportunity to thank you for your love and support for Nancy and me, and our family, and especially for your prayers for Nancy in her time of illness. It's been a challenge, but God is faithful and His blessings for healing and recovery for Nancy have been amazing. You have always been such a loving and supportive church family to our family through the many ups and downs we have been through together in the past 11 years. And truth be known, we have been through some difficult times together as I look back over our years here at FBC Buda. You have stood by my family through the loss of my grandmother, two aunts and the loss of my dear mother and father. You have walked with us through those times of grief and great loss and have always been such a loving encouragement and constant friend in those times. We have also had to navigate together many difficult times of grief and loss as a church family as we have laid precious deacons and wonderful saints of the Lord to rest. Those losses have not been easy for us as a church and have come with much grief and sorrow, even though we celebrate their homegoing to Heaven. These have left some big gaps and holes in our church family that have been difficult at times to fill. Many of us still grieve and miss these and look forward to the day we will be reunited with them in Heaven.

And then how could I not mention the past two and a half years for us as a church, trying to hold it together and find our way through the years of pandemic shut down and its effects on our church family. We are still trying to find our way out of all of that; and suffering and grieving our losses during that time. I say all of that to say that in the midst of all of that we have been so blessed. Haven't we? And, God has been so very faithful! It does grieve me when I hear of so many churches today that are closing their doors, losing their church for good, or have suffered to the extent that they may not recover. Folks, we have truly been blessed through all of this! Our giving has remained steady. We have missed very few services during the shutdown and have been able to keep our doors open welcoming worshippers to our campus for worship and Bible study, fellowship and spiritual growth... for the most part. We have also grown during this time. Many do not realize that through 2020 and 2021 (and the first part of 2022), through the pandemic and the shutdown we have added 30 new church members! Our choir and AWANA program have grown, and our youth have added several new faces as well. We have been very blessed, and God has been so faithful during this time. Our giving through this time has been good and remained steady. And, although at times we have felt the heaviness of things going on around us and in our world through all of this, our spirits have not lacked the hope and joy of the Lord as we have worshipped

together. We have also been blessed to add our livestream ministry over this time so that those worshipping from home, shut-ins and the sick can watch our services and participate. Just this past Sunday and Wednesday we had over 130 views online for our services. We are blessed folks!

All of that just to say THANK YOU! Thank you for being the beautiful, gracious, and loving church family that you are! And thank you for being such a huge blessing to me and my family every Sunday, and every Wednesday, and every day! As Paul says it in Philippians 1:3-6, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ." That is my heart for you. I thank God for you daily! I love you!
God bless you, Bro. Buddy



The poster is divided into two main sections. The top section has a background of a sunrise over water, with the text "Celebrate Easter at FBC BUDA" in a purple serif font, "hope" in large, glowing yellow letters, and "HAPPENS HERE!" in yellow capital letters below it. The bottom section has a solid purple background with white text. It lists "Easter Sunday APRIL 17", "Easter Son Rise Service 8:30 am - 9:30 am", "Bible Study / Sunday School 9:30 am - 10:30 am", and "Easter Celebration Worship Service An Easter Musical Celebration by the Worship Choir of FBC Buda 10:45 am - 12:00 pm".

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YOUTH NEWS—REMIND+

This month's article is going to be a quick announcement about youth camp sponsorships. Like I say nearly every Sunday we have a firm belief and desire that no one gives out of guilty obligation or prideful intent, but rather would be sensitive to the call of the Holy Spirit to give as He directs. When it comes to camp scholarships this remains our posture as a church. We will be going to M3 Camp at Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center, June 27th-July 1st. The cost for camp is \$280 per attendee. If you would like to give to help sponsor a child for camp please make any requisite payment to the church mentioning "Youth Camp" in the memo line. If you cannot afford a full sponsorship but still feel led to help out, please do so, we will accept partial scholarships as well. If the Lord is guiding you to give financially, I ask that you would join our team in prayer for preparation for what Youth Camp will bring for our students this year. The generosity of this church has already blown me away and we are truly blessed by you all. Thank you so much for your prayers and your gifts, may the Lord use them to change the lives of these students forever. ***In Christ's Love, Trey***

MUSIC NOTES

I can't believe it's already Easter time. I love this time of year. I am so excited about the Choir doing their Easter presentation "***Redeemed***". It will be presented on Sunday April 17th in the morning service. Please plan on being there with your family. It will be a glorious time.
God Bless you all, Nancy

WMU

We are continuing to collect for North American Missions through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering until April 17th. This year's goal is \$3,500. As of April 3 we have received \$3,604. Thank you all for your continued support of our missions.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

March newsletter: As always, our church has been blessed with wonderful children eager to engage with Scripture and each other. Children's Church attendance has increased, with 6 students in attendance one week! Throughout February they studied the Old Testament and in March they will be transitioning into studying the New Testament.

AWANAs continues to have steady attendance, drawing in children from FBC as well as students from outside the church. Even when students stop attending for long periods of time, they often return and slip seamlessly back into their routines and relationships. The big February event was "Dig for Dollars" where students earned a "shovel" coupon for every verse they memorized. The number of shovels earned determined how many times they were able to dig in a sandbox for buried treasure. The coins they found were then exchanged for AWANA bucks with our TNT students earning a total of \$103 and our Sparks earning \$184!

Your prayers, time, and hard work pours into these kids endlessly, and the fruit God grows from these sacrifices is very evident. This community has always had such a giving heart and we as a ministry team are overwhelmed by the amount of love you all give. **Caitlin Quigley, Children's Ministry Team - P.S.** *FBC Buda and the entire AWANAs program has been a tremendous blessing for me personally, especially in this season of my life where my present circumstances make it impossible to attend Sunday services. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in lessons leaders teach speaks to my heart personally, the patient and bubbly volunteers bring smiles to my face, and the children are the most astounding blessing of all. Every one of them comes in with a great attitude, an excitement to participate, and the willingness to be persistent. Between their joy and their staggeringly profound insights, it is easy to see that the kingdom of God rests in these young lives who do not grow weary of doing good (for the most part, anyway). Never take for granted the impact you have on others!*

April newsletter: We have been averaging 30 kids in March at AWANAs, and they are all growing so much in Christ! We had one asking questions on how to be baptized last week! Praises! We just keep planting those seeds. Vacation Bible School is around the corner June 7-10 8:30 am till Noon! **Children's Ministry Team**

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2	Church wide breakfast & work day, 8:00 AM
April 5	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
April 6	Mid-week Activities, Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
April 7	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
	WMU, 10:00 AM
April 10	"Appointed By Grace" during the morning service
	Building & Grounds Committee, following morning service
April 11	Budget & Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
	Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 PM
April 12	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
April 13	Mid-week Activities, Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
April 14	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
April 19	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
April 20	Mid-week Activities, Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
April 21	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
April 26	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
April 27	Mid-week Activities, Prayer Meeting, AWANA, Youth, 6:00 PM; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
April 28	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM

***April 30—Safe Church Certification/Recertification for everyone who wants to assist with children and youth activities, 9:00**

REDEEMED
By the Blood of the Lamb
Presented by the Worship Choir of FBC Buda
Nancy Johnson, Music Director
EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 17 at 10:45 a.m.
at First Baptist Church
Buda, Texas
104 S. San Marcos St.
Come join us!

CHRISTIAN CALLER

April 2022
VOLUME 22, Issue 4

**MISSION STATEMENT: WE
DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY
LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOMING
FULLY DEVOTED**



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BUDDY JOHNSON, PASTOR

TREY JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE PASTOR/

YOUTH MINISTER

NANCY JOHNSON, MUSIC MINISTER

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