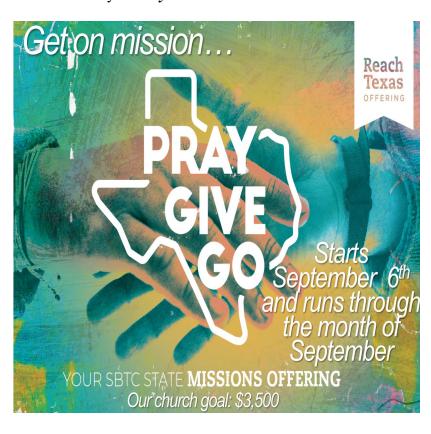
YOUTH RE+MIND

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." – Genesis 1:1

This verse is the foundation for everybody's search for truth and meaning. This world we're in and this life you're living has a purpose because it has a Creator. Like the sandwich your mom makes you for lunch is intended to be eaten, or like a song Taylor Swift writes about bad relationship number 200 is intended to be sung. So too were you made, designed, and intended to be. Why? Because you didn't just happen to be here, you were placed here by someone very intelligent. Even with all the struggles you're enduring, and all the confusion you have, God knows, and He has a plan for it all. For this reason, knowing God and seeking God is the highest pursuit your life can chase. And because of God's Son knowing Him is possible as He is inviting you in so that by knowing Him, you can understand your own purpose. Making this the most important question in light of all the hard questions of our day: "What Does God Say?" Trey Johnson



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 4 Labor Day

September 5 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM

September 6 Youth Vocal Ensemble, Girls, 5:00 PM

Mid-week activities: Special Guest Speaker,

Tavi Berechet, Missionary to Romania

Youth, AWANA, 6:00 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM

September 7 WMU, 10:00 AM

Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM

September 9 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 AM

September 10 Building & Grounds Committee, 12N

September 11 Deacons Meeting, 5:00 PM

September 12 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM

September 13 Youth Vocal Ensemble, Boys, 5:00 PM

Mid-week activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,

AWANA, 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM

September 14 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM

September 18 Budget & Finance Committee, 4:00 PM

September 19 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM

September 20 Youth Vocal Ensemble, Both, 5:00 PM

Mid-week activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,

AWANA, 6:00 PM

Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM

September 21 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM

September 26 Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM

September 27 Youth Vocal Ensemble, Both, 5:00 PM

Mid-week activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,

AWANA, 6:00 PM

Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM Choir Practice, 7:30 PM

September 28 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM

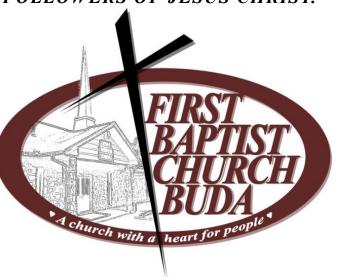
September 29 O.C.C. Work Day, 10:30 AM



CHRISTIAN CALLER

September 2023 Volume 23, Issue 9

MISSION STATEMENT:
WE DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY
LEADING PEOPLE TO
BECOMING FULLY DEVOTED
FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST.



First Baptist Church of Buda 104 S. San Marcos Street Buda, Texas 78610 512-295-2161

BUDDY JOHNSON, PASTOR TREY JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE PASTOR/ YOUTH MINISTER NANCY JOHNSON, MUSIC MINISTER

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

"I will love You, O Lord, my strength. ² The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³ I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies. ⁴ The pangs of death surrounded me, and the floods of ungodliness made me afraid. ⁵ The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; the snares of death confronted me. ⁶ In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, and my cry came before Him, even to His ears." –Psalm 18:1-6

Why do you "love" the Lord? Maybe you were taught to love the Lord from the time you were very young... raised in the church, taught early the wonderful stories of the faith and songs of the faith, and there was just never a time that you can remember that you didn't love the Lord. I'm so thankful for a godly heritage from my mom and dad, who took me to God's house and taught me early to love the Lord and the things of the Lord. My mom for years poured into the hearts and lives of children, teaching a children's Sunday School class, and instilling in them... and me, and my brother and sister, a love for the Lord. I can still remember sitting in church beside my mom and dad, singing the great hymns of faith and listening to the preacher expound the great stories of faith. I was taught how to sit and behave in church, to have a reverence and awe for what was happening there, to love and respect that place where we met and worshipped God, to love God and His house.

Perhaps for you it's different. Maybe for you God has been a source of strength, and has seen you through some difficult times in your life. He has been a sure source of comfort and help in your time of need and you don't know how you could have made it through without Him, so you love the Lord. I get that too! I still don't know how to navigate my losses apart from Him. The grief is still so strong at times, and it's hard. But God is good, and sustaining. He comforts. He heals hurts. He restores. I don't know how to make it through without Him. I admit it! He is a crutch for me! I need Him and I love Him because He is always there... always with me... always helping me... always comforting me. And He will you too!

Maybe God saved you and you love Him for saving you! He saved you from yourself, from a self-destructive lifestyle, saved you out of a life of sin and darkness and you will spend the rest of your life loving and worshipping the Lord, because of what He has done in your life. Yeah! Me too! I get it! I see it! I know it too! He saved me and He saves me. He is daily saving me as He ever lives to make intercession for Me as Paul says in Romans 8:34. He is my Savior and I love Him for willingly giving His all to rescue me, to redeem me, to resuscitate me, to save me. He saves me and I love Him for it.

Maybe you love Him because you daily see his hand at work in your life. Daily you recognize His hand of mercy, grace, His forgiveness, His goodness in your life. You recognize His compassions fail not and are new every morning as the Prophet Jeremiah tells us in Lamentations 3:22-23. Oh yeah! I see it too! I love the Lord for all this and more.

We've been singing this song in church lately that says it, "You are my strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that I seek; You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool; You are my all in all. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, rising again I bless Your name; You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me up; when I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all." It's true! There is so much to love about our Lord... that and more. Have you ever thought about just sitting down and thinking about why you love the Lord? Do it... and not just the canned cliché reasons. Really think about it on a personal level. And tell Him about it. That is what David did in Psalm 18 and his vowed declaration is a beautiful and moving one. "I will love You, O Lord, my strength." Let it be mine too!

Be Blessed in Him, Bro. Buddy

MUSIC NOTES

Hey Everyone! Haven't you enjoyed the choir leading out in worship on Sunday mornings? I know I sure have. If you would like to join this group of precious saints, that love to sing for God's glory, join us on Wednesday nights, right after Bible study. We are beginning to work on our Christmas music so now would be a great time to join the choir! We'd love to have you! *In His Name, Nancy*

CHILDREN'S CORNER

September 6th marks the beginning of our AWANA year and we are excited to have some new families this year. We can always use occasional helpers (not even every Wed) and volunteers to share testimonies or favorite bible stories, (from 6:15-6:30). Let Nicole Wehrman know if you would like to volunteer.

We are still actively looking for a nursery worker. Until we hire a nursery worker, we need help in our nursery area. There are calendars in the hall and if you are safe church certified please sign up for a shift. We appreciate and need all of the help we can get.

We think of all our children's programs as seeds of faith like in Matthew 13 and the parable of the farmer and the seeds. We are cultivating that soil and planting seeds which he can grow. *The Children's Ministry Team*

WMU

Fall is a busy season at FBC Buda!! We are beginning our Reach Texas State Mission's. The Week of Prayer is September 10-16. Our goal as a church this year is \$3,500. Please give as you can, prayerfully.

Operation Christmas Child has begun! We are collecting items such as combs, hairbrushes, toothbrushes, washcloths, bar soap, Bandaids, flashlights, batteries, plastic reusable cups, plates, bowls, water bottles, blunt edge utensils. There is a box in the church foyer for OCC donations.

Thank-you, Church, for all you do to help and share with people in Texas and around the world!

QUALIFIED NURSERY WORKER NEEDED!

The First Baptist Church of Buda Personnel Committee is looking for a new nursery worker to work on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings for a total of 6-1/2 hours each week on a regular basis. If available, this person will also work 35 hours the week of VBS. Please email your resume to: fbcbuda.personnel@gmail.com. Salary is based on experience.