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STAFF WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Interim Pastor

Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday
8:30am-4pm

Associate Pastor of Worship

Monday—Thursday
8:30am—5pm

Associate Pastor of Youth

Tuesday—Friday
8:30am—5 pm

Childhood Ministry Director

Monday—Thursday
8:30am—5pm

Financial Administrator

Monday—Friday
8:30am—5pm

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesdays:

6pm AWANA's
6pm Youth Worship
6:30pm Adult Prayer Meeting / Bible Study

Sundays:

9:15am Bible Study
10:30am Worship
6pm Youth Bible study
6pm Children's Musical rehearsal
6pm Worship

A Word from Our Interim Pastor

Dear Church Family.

Let's have a little fun.....See if you can solve the following problem. Yes, it is really a math problem, and it really does have a solution and an answer.

A rope is placed over the top of a fence with the same length of rope hanging on both sides. The rope weighs 1/3 of a pound per foot. On the end of the rope on one side, hangs a monkey holding a banana. On the other end of the rope is a weight equal to the weight of the monkey.

The banana weighs 2 ounces per inch. The length of the rope (in feet) is equal to the age of the monkey, and the weight of the monkey (in ounces) is equal to the age of the monkey's mother. The combined ages of the monkey and its mother are 30 years. The weight of the banana plus one half of the weight of the monkey is 1/4 as much as the sum of the weights of the weight and the rope, where all weights are in the same units. The monkey's mother is one half as old as the monkey will be when it is three times as old as its mother was when she was one half as old as the monkey will be when it is twice as old as it is now. How long is the banana?

Now let me ask a question. What if you had to solve that problem, on your own, in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven? Would you make it into heaven? I dare say that most of the people in this world could not solve the problem, and, therefore, would not go to heaven. Well, aren't you glad that God does not require a person to solve a problem like that in order to be saved. We don't have to be smart, or rich, or popular, or good looking, or anything else in order to be saved. All we have to do is to ask Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. The Bible teaches us that we are all sinners, and have fallen short of the glory of God, and that the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord...for all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. So many people think they have to be good to be loved by God, and the problem with that is that none of us could ever be good enough. God loves us just as we are, and when we come to him in faith, just as we are, he saves us. Isn't that great news? Let's go tell it to the world.

(Let me know if you determine the length of the banana).

Sue and I are excited to be serving here at Arcadia FBC once again. As your Interim Pastor, I look forward to walking together with you during this time of transition. Part of our walk will be on level ground, part of it will be downhill, and part of it will be uphill. But if we keep our eyes on the goal of our journey (to glorify Christ in all that we do), then the journey will never be burdensome...*for His yoke is easy and his burden is light.* I believe that the Lord has great things in store for our church, and I know that, with His help, together we can be the church He wants us to be. It is my prayer that each of us will continue to have the attitude expressed by Isaiah, "Here am I, Lord. Send me."

Hope to see you all in the Lord's House on the Lord's Day,
Jerl



Does God Sing?

This morning I was reading from the book of Deuteronomy and in chapter 31 Moses learns that he is about to die and Joshua is about to take his place as leader of Israel. God explains to Moses that the Israelites will soon reject Him and follow after other gods. So that the Israelites would remember His grace and goodness and the consequences of rejecting Him, God taught Moses and Joshua a song that they in turn were to teach to the Israelites. Though the song is not quite as joyful and lyrical as those we sing in church today, God pours out His heart to His people and it is a beautiful picture of what He desires from His followers. As I was reading, I wondered if God actually sang this song. If so, what did His voice sound like? Was it a thundering bass voice or a tenor voice that would make Andrea Bocelli sound like a bullfrog with a head cold? It reminded me of another passage in scripture, Zephaniah 3:17-“The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.” I love this passage for multiple reasons. First, it shows us that God does indeed sing. All good gifts come from God (James 1:17) which means that God is an amazing musician who both loves the music we make, and makes His own! Next, I appreciate this passage because it describes God as both a “Mighty Warrior” and a loving singer. I’ve met many men over the years who don’t think singing is cool and manly, but here we see God, the Warrior, singing with love in His heart for His people. When I think about my great God singing over me, it makes me want to sing back in worship. How about you? I love you and love being your Worship Pastor!

For His Glory,
Stephen Wilhite

On Another Note...

Our annual Chili Cookoff took place on January 28th, and it was great! We had 10 entries this year. The chili was delicious and the fellowship was even better! Here are our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners:

1st- Joshua Doss

2nd- Wil and Violet Leach

3rd- Aloha Berger

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to everyone who participated. Special thanks to Kim McCurdy, Shawn McCurdy and Ruth Crosby for all your help setting up and to everyone who helped to clean up and/or who prepared food for the event. Also, thank you to Texas Roadhouse in Friendswood for donating prizes to our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. We all had a blast!

To the 1st place winner, my good friend Joshua Doss, I would also like to say how thankful I have been for your family’s friendship. I am going to miss you guys like you wouldn’t believe. Thank you for serving alongside me in ministry and for ministering to my family in so many ways. Thank you for all you have done here at AFBC. I know God has a great plan for you in Alabama and I am excited about the ways He will use you as you shepherd the flock at Bethlehem Baptist. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. Don’t forget to stay in touch and to come back and visit!



Additional Wednesday Night Cook Teams Needed



Additional Cook Teams are needed for the monthly rotation. Contact Kim McCurdy or contact the church office @409 925-2825 for more information & details.

Ministry Opportunities

If you are praying about a place to serve at Arcadia First Baptist Church please contact Aloha Berger, Chairman of Committee on Committees or the Church Office. They can provide a listing of ministry opportunities to serve on various committees and organizations at AFBC.



February Men's Breakfast

8am Feb. 18th—F4
Gene Newton, Dir.
All Men are welcome
no need to sign up!



February 3rd
8am-4pm
@AFBC

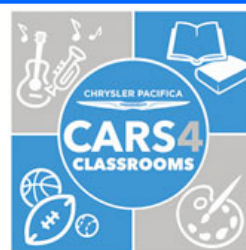
Texas Roadhouse Pre-Teen Camp Fundraiser
Deadline to order is 5:00pm
Monday, February 26, 2018



FEBRUARY 28, 2018
Grand Prix Races
5pm-5:45 - Check-In & Hot Dog Fellowship (In place of Wed. Night Supper)
5:45pm - Design Contest
6:00-6:30pm - Grand Prix Races

February H.I.S. Ministry Donation Needs:

H.I.S. Ministry is collecting **shampoo & conditioner** for the month of February. A basket is located in the foyer labeled "H.I.S. Ministry"



AFBCS Chrysler Cars 4 Classrooms
March 7, 2018
1pm-5pm

Help raise funds for our school!

Chrysler Cars 4 Classrooms will donate \$10 for each test drive taken -- up to \$2,000! We can also earn an additional \$1,000 for our school by sharing photos on a public Facebook account using #AFBCPacificaContest and tagging @Chrysler. We need 100 public posts to get the additional \$1,000! So come on out and take a test drive! (Drivers must be licensed and 18 years or older.)



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

DATE	Total
01/07	232
01/14	259
01/21	312
01/28	262

Average 266

CHURCH FAMILY FOCUS Sunday School/Bible Study Attendance

January 07	
Adults	142
Youth	22
Children	18
Pre-School	14
TOTAL	196
January 14	
Adults	142
Youth	14
Children	25
Pre-School	22
TOTAL	203
January 21	
Adults	155
Youth	25
Children	30
Pre-School	19
TOTAL	229
January 28	
Adults	141
Youth	17
Children	22
Pre-School	19
TOTAL	199
S.S. MONTHLY AVERAGE	207

GOD'S TITHES & OFFERINGS JANUARY 2018

Budget Receipts

Reporting 1/07/18	\$17,733.79
Reporting 1/14/18	\$21,686.94
Reporting 1/21/18	\$ 7,784.68
Reporting 1/28/18	\$10,054.18

Budget Receipts (AS OF 01/31/18)	\$57,259.59
January 2018 Monthly Budget Needs	\$56,446.12

Building Fund GKG3

Reporting 1/07/18	\$ 2,805.13
Reporting 1/14/18	\$ 4,221.00
Reporting 1/21/18	\$ 1,930.00
Reporting 1/28/18	\$ 2,806.05

Total GKG3 (FOR January)	\$ 11,762.18
Balance (AS OF 01/31/18)	\$ 6,743.67

Deacons on Call
2/04 Will Leach/Sammy Belcher
2/11 John Rothermel/Loran Lance
2/18 Doug Anderson/Kelly Creech
2/25 Gene Newton/Doug McDowell

February 2018












GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM 3

AFBCS/MDO

Extended Childcare Events

2/6 - 8am-5pm AFBCS Auction Mail-out Workday - F6
 2/10 - 8am-5pm AFBCS Auction Workday - F6
 2/16 - AFBCS TABS Training/Student Holiday
 2/19 - AFBCS Teacher in-service/Student Holiday
 2/19-2/23 AFBCS Spring Book Fair
 2/22 - 6:30pm - AFBCS Preview Night

Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat

4 Souper Bowl of caring—cash collection for Mission Galveston 8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service—WC 5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups—AC 6pm Evening Worship - Worship Evening—Superbowl Sunday Prayer Fellowship Home Groups	5 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL 	6 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6	7 11:30am Chamber luncheon 5:15PM WNS—F4 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study-WC 6p AWANA's - Stuffed Animal AC 6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC 	8 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F2 11am O.W.L.S. Monthly Meeting - Beyond Burger 	9 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F2 11am O.W.L.S. Monthly Meeting - Beyond Burger	10
11 8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service-WC 4:15-5:45pm Grand Prix Workshop-AC 4:30pm Deacon's Meeting—CR 5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups—AC 6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC 6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr. 7pm Fellowship for Joshua & Family	12 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL 	13 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Comm. Rm 12pm GBA Pastor Luncheon-F4 6pm Budget & Finance Mtg.—CR 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6 6pm Church Council — CR 	14 5:15PM WNS—F4 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study-WC 6p AWANA's - Wear Red or Pink AC 6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC 	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4 	16 TABS Training/Student Holiday	17
18 Outreach Sunday 8am Men's Breakfast — F4 8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service-WC 4:15-5:45 Grand Prix Workshop - AC 5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups—AC 6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC 6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr.	19 President's Day—In-service/Student Holiday 6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL 	20 8am-3pm AFBCS 4th Grade -F4 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room 12pm Secretaries Luncheon—New Hope Baptist Church 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6	21 5:15PM WNS—F4 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study-WC 6p AWANA's - Dress Patriotic- AC 6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc 	22 10am-2p AFBC Piecemakers-F4	23	24
25 8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service-WC 5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups—AC 6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC 6pm Evening Worship—Worship Ctr.	26 Pre-Teen Camp Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser Deadline 6PM HANDBELL REHEARSAL 	27 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room 6:30 Celebrate Recovery F4/F6	28 5:00pm AWANA Grand Prix - Check-in; Hot Dogs Fellowship -AC 5:45pm Grand Prix Car Judging 6pm AWANA's - Grand Prix -Race -AC 6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC 6:30pm AWANA Club 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc 			

WMU FOCUS February 12th -18th















Deacons on Call
 3/04 Gene Newton/John Rothermel
 3/11 Will Leach/Loran Lance
 3/18 Kelly Creech/Doug McDowell
 3/25 Sammy Belcher/Mark Higginbotham

March 2018

Southern Baptist Prayer for North American Missions
ANNIE ARMSTRONG EMPHASIS MONTH (GOAL \$3,500.00)

AFBCS/MDO Events

3/3 - 8am-5pm AFBCS Auction Work Day - F6
 3/7 - 1-5pm Test Drive Fundraiser
 3/9 - Early Release at 11:00pm
 3/12 - 3/16 - AFBCS/MDO/childcare- Spring Break
 3/23 - Early Release/Parent/Teacher Conference @11pm
 3/24 - 8am-5pm AFBCS Auction Workday - F6
 3/30 - AFBCS/MDO Teacher In-Service/Student Holiday

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Activity Center Exercise Schedule</div> <div>Monday: 6pm Ladies Boot Camp</div> <div>Tuesday: 6pm Ladies Kickboxing</div> <div>Thursday: 6pm Ladies Boot Camp</div>		<div>MONDAY—FRIDAY</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">AFB CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 8AM—3PMMOTHER'S DAY OUT 9AM—2PMEXTENDED CARE 6:30AM—9AM & 2PM—6PMMDO CHAPEL 10:40AM (Rotates Wed. & Thurs.)AFBCS CHAPEL 9:25AM & 10:05AM (Wednesdays)CHILDCARE 6:30AM—6:00PM</div>		<div>1</div> <div>10am O.W.L.S. Council Mtg. - CR</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Picemakers-F2</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8am-4pm Men's Workday @ AFBC</div> <div>everyone welcome</div>
<div>4</div> <div>8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC</div> <div>9:15am SS/Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service—WC</div> <div>5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups – AC</div> <div>6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC</div> <div>6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr.</div> <div></div> <div>HANDBELL CHOIR</div>	<div>5</div> <div>5:30-6:30pm Pre-Teen Camp- TX</div> <div>Roadhouse dinner pick up</div> <div>6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div> <div>HANDBELL CHOIR</div>	<div>6</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank</div> <div>6pm Budget & Finance Mtg.—TYC</div> <div>6:00pm Church Council—CR</div> <div>6:30pm Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>12pm Ministerial Alliance Mtg— BB</div> <div>1-5pm Chrysler Test Drive Fundraiser</div> <div>5:15PM WNS—F4</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg./Bible Study-WC</div> <div>6pm AWANA's—Club Attendance awards, band-aid night AC</div> <div>6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC</div> <div>7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc</div> <div></div>	<div>8</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Picemakers-F4</div> <div></div>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div>
<div>11 2AM TIME CHANGE-SPRING FORWARD ONE HR</div> <div>8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC</div> <div>9:15am SS/Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service—WC</div> <div>4:30pm Deacon's Mtg. –CR</div> <div>5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups – AC</div> <div>6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC</div> <div>6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr.</div>	<div>12</div> <div>6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div> <div>HANDBELL CHOIR</div>	<div>13</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room</div> <div>6:30pm Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div> <div></div>	<div>14</div> <div>5:15PM WNS—F4</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg./Bible Study-WC</div> <div>6pm No AWANA - Spring Break</div> <div>6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC</div> <div>7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc</div> <div></div>	<div>15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Picemakers-F4</div> <div></div>	<div>16</div>	<div>17</div>
<div>18 Outreach Sunday</div> <div>8:00am Men's Breakfast</div> <div>8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC</div> <div>9:15am SS/Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service—WC</div> <div>4pm Inreach/Outreach visitation</div> <div>5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups – AC</div> <div>6pm Kid's Musical Practice— TYC</div> <div>6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr.</div>	<div>19</div> <div>6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div> <div>HANDBELL CHOIR</div>	<div>20</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room</div> <div>6:30pm Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>21</div> <div>5:15PM WNS—F4</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg./Bible Study-WC</div> <div>6pm AWANA's - Wear Fav Spring color -AC</div> <div>6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC</div> <div>7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc</div> <div></div>	<div>22</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Picemakers-F4</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>
<div>25 PALM SUNDAY OBSERVANCE OF LORD'S SUPPER</div> <div>BBQ Sandwich Fundraiser</div> <div>8am Praise Band Rehearsal—WC</div> <div>9:15am SS/Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Worship Service—WC</div> <div>5:30pm Open Gym/Youth Groups – AC</div> <div>6pm Kid's Musical Practice—TYC</div> <div>6pm Evening Worship - Worship Ctr</div>	<div>26</div> <div>6PM HANDBELLS REHEARSAL</div> <div></div> <div>HANDBELL CHOIR</div>	<div>27</div> <div>9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Amegy Bank Community Room</div> <div>6:30pm Celebrate Recovery F4/F6</div>	<div>28</div> <div>5:15PM WNS—F4</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg./Bible Study-WC</div> <div>6pm AWANA's - Western Night - AC</div> <div>6pm Youth Worship Service—TYC</div> <div>6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- WC</div> <div>7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-wc</div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div>10am-2p AFBC Picemakers-F4</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Church Office Closed</div> <div>7pm Good Friday Worship Service - WC</div> <div>7pm Iglesia Good Fri. Worship Service-Iglesia</div> <div></div>	<div>31</div>
<div>GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM 3</div>						



ON VALENTINES DAY...A REAL LOVE CONNECTION

By Anne Marie Chilton — February 12, 2009

The word “love” might bring to mind a familiar phrase:

Love is patient, love is kind . . .

On one popular TV trivia show, the contestants couldn’t name the book of the Bible where these verses are written, but they recognized the words.

Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres . . .

Many have heard these verses recited in wedding ceremonies or seen them written on Valentine’s Day cards. And they are found in 1 Corinthians 13, often called the “love chapter” of the Bible.

Love never fails . . .

At a certain point, some might say 1 Corinthians 13 has been quoted too much, which can cause words to lose their meaning. People might think, “Yeah, yeah, ok. ‘Faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love’. I know. I’ve heard it all before.”

Others have heard someone say, “I love you,” but a happy ending didn’t follow. For some, the word “love” has been exhausted. That’s because if we read or speak beautiful words about love again and again, but do not do it with intention or understanding, then the words begin to sound like empty statements.

A better way to say that is, “If I speak in the languages of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal” (1 Corinthians 13:1, NIV).

In fact, 1 Corinthians 13 teaches that people must connect to love, specifically the love of God, in order to live meaningful lives.

CONNECTING TO THE SOURCE

Valentine’s Day brings good news because—whether single, married, divorced, separated, or any other sort of status—people can connect to the best kind of love, God’s love. And Valentine’s Day recognizes a holiday of taking time to show affection, to bring a little more meaning into everyday actions.

Instead of mentioning romance in 1 Corinthians 13, the great love chapter teaches about the love of God: agape love, everlasting love, unconditional love, unselfish love. God’s love is wide open. His love is available to any people who will yield their hearts and lives to Him.

On one popular reality TV show, a single man meets several single women. As he gets to know them a little better, he eliminates the women he is not interested in. Sounds cruel, right? It is. But it’s all done in the name of “love”—and entertainment.

As the women on the show are publicly rejected, one by one, they feel awful. One woman expressed her hopelessness, saying, “If I could have opened myself up to him, I think, if he saw the real me, he would definitely reconsider.”

Another thought if she were more beautiful or charming, then he would have chosen her. “I tried, and it just wasn’t enough,” she said. In romance, many times, heartbreak comes before lasting love.

But God does not line people up, inspect them, and then reject the

ones He doesn’t like because that is not what real love does. Sometimes cultural expressions and ideas about love are so cheap that it’s almost impossible to fathom, in contrast, the wonderful extent of God’s love.

The Bible confirms this, saying, “Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known” (1 Corinthians 13:12).

God knows people very well, and He loves us. He knows the strengths and weaknesses, the secret sins and personal joys. God desires to save us from ourselves. His love gives us a second chance, and really, more chances than we deserve.

Billy Graham says, “No matter what sin you have committed, no matter how dirty, shameful or terrible it may be, God loves you. You may be at the very gate of hell itself, but God loves you with an everlasting love.”

GOD IS ... WHAT?

The Bible teaches that God is love.

In the language of mathematics, that means *God = love*. In the language of teenagers, it means that *God is, like, totally all about love*. In a philosophical sense, God is so wrapped up in love that He is one with love itself.

Unlike a lovesick admirer, God does not simply profess His love in words. God proves His love in action. The Bible says, “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

Jesus Christ’s sacrifice represents the ultimate act of love because it shows God’s grace. Christ is not just a good person who did good things for people and then was willing to die for His actions. Christ died in order to bring people closer to God.

Billy Graham says, “The fact that God is love does not mean that everything is sweet, beautiful and happy and that God’s love could not possibly allow punishment for sin. God’s holiness demands that all sin be punished, but God’s love provided a plan of redemption and salvation for sinful people. God’s love provided the cross of Jesus Christ by which we can have forgiveness and cleansing.”

Besides, what good is it to die for someone if the act accomplishes nothing? Or if the motives are impure? The Bible says, “If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:3).

In speaking of love, 1 Corinthians 13 challenges people to do everything out of love, specifically the kind of love that God has shown through Jesus. Love is the motive. That means loving friends, enemies, neighbors, co-workers, spouses, children, parents, and even strangers with the merciful and selfless love that comes from God.

What a great challenge! There should be a holiday that celebrates love. Oh, and there is. But while Valentine’s Day focuses, for the most part, on romantic love, people can be sure that there’s so much more to that dreaded four-letter word. There’s a lifetime of days to connect to God, the Source of love, who teaches us, by example, to love with patience, faith, generosity, wisdom, and grace.

Source: <https://billygraham.org/story/on-valentines-day-a-real-love-connection/>



Growing the Flock...Let Me Introduce

You To...



Thomas and Pat Blake

Thomas and Pat Blake joined our church family in December.

Thomas and Pat have been residents of Alvin for over forty years. However, Thomas grew up in West Virginia along with two brothers and 4 sisters. Pat is originally from Indiana and had 1 brother and 2 sisters.

They have been married for fifty-one years and have one child and several nieces and nephews.

Before retirement Thomas was a metal fabricator. Pat worked in the school system for 37 years, first as a teacher and then as school principal.

When asked about hobbies, Pat shared that she and Thomas both had an interest in sewing and made a good team. She noted that although they did not have any particular talents they loved trying new things even if they couldn't do them well.

Thomas became a Christian at the age of eight back in West Virginia and Pat became a Christian back in Indiana at the age of seven.

When asked about memorable times in their walk with the Lord, Pat shared that they had once prayed that God would delay His return until unsaved nieces and nephews were saved and God answered that prayer.

In their faith walk among other things Thomas has been a Bible teacher and he and Pat were both involved in a ministry of caring for widows for many years.

Thomas and Pat were first attracted to AFBC by the fact that their nephew attends AFBCS and as a result had come to know the Lord. Other factors that contributed to their becoming a part of the AFBC church family was (1) the fact that AFBC holds services not only on Sunday morning but Sunday evening and Wednesday, (2) the fact that scripture is read and used as a basis for teaching and preaching, and (3) the observance of scriptural baptism by the church.

Welcome Thomas and Pat. We are so glad you have chosen worship and serve alongside us at AFBC.

AFBC Senior Adult Events:

February:

- Outreach Bible Study**– Every Tue., 9:30am, Amegy Bank Community Rm; the group is open to individuals of all ages;
- Piecemakers**- Every Thurs. 10am AFBC - F4; women of all ages are invited to participate;
- OWLS Council** –February 1, 10am; AFBC Conference Room
- OWLS Monthly Meeting** - February 8, 11am @ Beyond Burger, Texas City

Coming Soon:

•**May By The Bay-**

May 7-10; Texas Baptist Encampment, Palacios; this is a great time of Bible study, preaching, music and lots of fun. Early reservations begin January 20th. There are packets on the table in the foyer with all the information.



Memory Verse of the Month
"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
Romans 5:8



A NEW WAY TO LOOK AT JOHN 3:16



Here is a new way to look at
John 3:16 and remember that it was written as
God's Valentine to the world including you and me!

Jesus said:

“For God so lo**V**ed the world
That He g**A**ve
His on**L**y
Begott**E**n
So**N**
That whosoever
Believes **I**n Him
Shall **N**ot perish
But have **E**verlasting life.”

LOL...Laughing Out Loud

“A joyful heart is good medicine...”
Proverbs 17:22a (ESV)

Valentine Humor

Kids On Love and Marriage

HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

"Married people usually look happy to talk to other people." Eddie, age 6

"You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids." Derrick, age 8

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

"Both don't want no more kids." Lori, age 8

WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

"Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough." Lynnette, age 8

"On the first date, they just tell each other lies, and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date." Martin, age 10

IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

"It's better for girls to be single, but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them." Anita, age 9

"Single is better, for the simple reason that I wouldn't want to change no diapers. Of course, if I did get married, I'd just phone my mother and have her come over for some coffee and diaper-changing." Kirsten, age 10

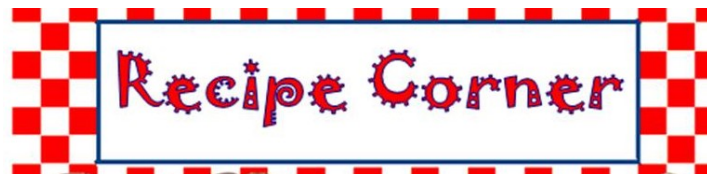
HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

"Tell your wife that she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck." Ricky, age 10

Success

A Successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.

A Successful woman is one who can find such a man.



RED VELVET PANCAKES WITH CREAM CHEESE GLAZE

Ingredients:

1 (4 ounce) package cream cheese, softened	
1 cup confectioners' sugar, sifted	
1 teaspoon vanilla extract	
1 tablespoon milk, or as needed	
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour	
2 tablespoons white sugar	
2 teaspoons baking powder	
1 tablespoon unsweetened cocoa powder	
1 teaspoon distilled white vinegar	
1 teaspoon salt	2 eggs
1/4 cup milk	1 cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract	1/4 cup melted butter
2 teaspoons red food coloring	

Directions:

Prepare the cream cheese glaze by beating the cream cheese, confectioners' sugar, and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract in a bowl until smooth. Thin with 1 tablespoon milk or as needed to achieve a pourable consistency. Set aside.

Whisk the flour, white sugar, baking powder, cocoa powder, and salt together in a bowl until evenly blended; set aside. Beat the eggs in a separate mixing bowl until smooth. Whisk in 1/4 cup milk with the buttermilk, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, vinegar, and food coloring. Stir in the flour mixture until moistened. Drizzle in the melted butter, and stir until the butter has incorporated and small lumps of flour remain.

Heat a lightly oiled griddle over medium-high heat. Drop batter by large spoonfuls onto the griddle, and cook until bubbles form and the edges are dry. Flip, and cook until browned on the other side. Repeat with remaining batter. Drizzle with the cream cheese glaze to serve.

Source: Allrecipes.com



AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed) - Our AWANA Clubs are preparing for the AWANA Grand Prix! Car kits are on sale now for \$5. We have adjusted the calendar a little. So please note the following Grand Prix event dates and times: We will have **two Grand Prix Workshops** on Sunday afternoons, **February 11th and February 18th from 4:15 to 5:45**. Students may begin registering and weighing in their cars on Wednesday evening February 21 from 5:30 to 6:00. Each car must register with a number and weight. **PLEASE DO**

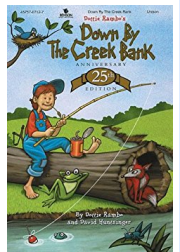
NOT PAINT OR WRITE A NAME ANYWHERE ON THE CAR OR IT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM THE DESIGN CONTEST. Cars will be checked in and registered by *number and weight*.

The actual **Grand Prix race will be Wednesday evening February 28!** Chili dogs and car check in will be from 5:00 - 5:45. The design contest will begin at 5:45, and the race will be from 6:00 to 6:30. We will have AWANAs the remainder of the evening from 6:30 to 7:30. It's going to be a fun evening! **Everyone is invited to join us for free food and fun!**

The theme schedule for February is: **February 7 - Stuffed Animal Night; February 14 - Valentine's Day - Wear pink or red; February 21 - President's Day - Dress Patriotic; February 28 - Grand Prix! Come in uniform!**

AWANA Clubs meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30! There are sign-up packets in the foyer, or you can just show up and sign up when you come to club! AWANAs is for children 3 years old (by September 1, 2017) up through the 6th grade. It's never too late to join us!

CHILDREN'S SPRING MUSICAL - The children are already hard at work on their new musical that they will present on **May 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** We have over 30 children signed up! We are meeting in the Youth Center from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings. There are lots of solos and speaking parts! It's not too late to join us! This is going to be a lot of fun! It's for children who are in kindergarten through the 6th grades! Hope to see you there!



PRETEEN CAMP REGISTRATION - Registration forms are now available for preteens to sign up for **camp!** If you plan to attend, please go ahead and grab a registration form and turn it in with the \$50 registration fee. I will be sending in the first batch of forms and deposits the first week of February to be sure we get a spot. I will continue to send in forms as long as there is space available! We will head to Pineywoods Baptist Encampment again this summer! We will leave on **Saturday, July 28, and return on Wednesday, August 1, 2018!** The cost for camp this summer is \$265 per person!

We are having a preteen camp **Texas Roadhouse rib fundraiser this month!** The deadline to order meals is Monday, February 26! We will also have a **bake sale** and a **BBQ sandwich fundraiser**. We will let you know dates for those as soon as we get them on the calendar. Kids, if you need help financially to go to camp, please be a part of these fundraisers! Looking forward to a great week of camp!

Sunday School

Children's Sunday Morning Bible Study- Our children's Bible study classes are **going great!** Don't miss out! This hour will help prepare, equip, and refresh your child for their upcoming week! We meet each Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15! See you there!



Mothers Day Out / Preschool / Full-Time Child Care & Before & After School Care- I can't believe it's already February! This month's themes are rodeo, western, and of course Valentines! The children will exchange valentines and we will have lots of fun crafts for them to enjoy!

Registration for summer and fall 2018 begins this month! We are having a private in-house registration from February 1 - 14, 2018. Registration will open up to the public on February 15! Spaces will fill up quickly. Don't wait to register if you are planning on enrolling for a certain program. New packets are now available! Please call the children's ministry office if you have any questions! (409.925.2825, Ext. 2)



Registration Information

AFBCS REGISTRATION - Registration for the fall of 2018 begins this month! We are registering kindergarten through the 12th grades! We are having a private in-house registration from February 1-14, 2018, for those who are currently enrolled. We will open it up to the public on February 15th! New packets are now available! Please contact the school office if you have any questions! (409.925.2825, Ext. 2)

AFBCS PREVIEW NIGHT / OPEN HOUSE! - Our school preview night / open house is next month, **Thursday evening, February 22nd!** The evening will begin at **6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. After the faculty and students share about our school, guests will be escorted to the classrooms where teachers can go over curriculum and answer questions that they may have. This is a huge night for us! We constantly have calls, emails, and visits from families inquiring about our school, and we are hoping to have lots of prospective students and families attending! We are excited to share what we're all about and introduce to you our exceptional students! We hope you will invite your family, friends, and neighbors to come and join us for this fun evening!



SPRING BOOK FAIR - We will host our 2nd book fair of the school year the week of February 19th! The kids get so excited to attend our book fairs! We hope you will come check it out! This is also a fundraiser for our school! Thank you, Katy Wheeler, for putting this together and for all you do! You are hard to keep up with!

AFBCS AUCTION - Our 7th Annual AFBCS Auction will be Friday evening, April 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. We hope you will join us for this evening of fun! We will have a silent auction during dinner and a live auction afterwards! **Here are ways you can help: PURCHASE** a ticket to our auction. We will have a catered meal by Texas Roadhouse! They will serve ribs AND portabella mushroom chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, and tea. Adult tickets (\$12) and children's tickets (\$7) will be on sale in March! **INVITE** family and friends to the auction! Be sure to give them plenty of notice to purchase their tickets! **DONATE** an item or service. You can put together a theme basket, donate gift cards, sports memorabilia, a vacation getaway, tickets to theme parks, homemade items such as woodwork or quilts, etc., or even a dessert! If you plan to donate an item or service, please pick up a donation sheet and write on it what you will donate and turn that back in to us as soon as possible. You may begin bringing up items as soon as you get them ready! (Of course, if you are donating a dessert, you may bring that up the day of the auction!) **Please try to bring up donated items by Friday, March 30, 2018!** **COME!** It is really a great time! You will eat, laugh, and enjoy good company, as well as help raise money for our school! **Hope to see you there!**



TEST DRIVE FUNDRAISER - Stop by the church for our first AFBCS Chrysler's Cars 4 Classrooms on **March 7, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.** to help raise funds for our school! **Chrysler's Cars 4 Classrooms will donate \$10 for each test drive taken -- up to \$2,000!** We can also earn an additional \$1,000 for our school by sharing photos on a public Facebook account using #AFBCPacificaContest and tagging @Chrysler. We need 100 public posts to get the additional \$1,000! So come on out and take a test drive! (Drivers must be licensed and 18 years or older.)

Senior Trip - We will have seniors - our first graduating class - next year! It's crazy to believe, but it's true! Parents of our seniors are putting together pricing and details for a senior trip fall of 2019. Exciting stuff!



BOX TOPS!! - We just got a check in for sending in our Box Tops! It was for \$568.10! It's crazy how those add up! Thank you so much for cutting those out and turning them in! Our next Box Tops Contest is underway and due on Valentine's Day! So keep them coming! Thank you so much, church body and school/mdo families, for cutting out and turning in those box tops! **Thank you so much, Aloha!**



Dear AFBC family:

It has been a joy to serve alongside you all at Arcadia FBC for the last 3+ years, but with a heavy heart I must inform you that I have submitted my resignation. I wish nothing but the best for you and this church as I transition to another ministry opportunity. God has called me to be the Senior Pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Lacey's Spring, AL and I was honored to accept. My last day at Arcadia FBC will be February 11th.

Though this will not be an easy time for either of us, I encourage you to make it a fruitful time as you consider the work that God has done in you, and will do through you in the years to come. I pray that the work that God has started in you, He will continue through to the end as He has promised.

To those who have served with me in youth ministry, I am forever grateful for your sacrifice and pray that you will continue to invest in the next generation of world changing disciple-makers. May the Lord bless you for your faithful service, especially during this upcoming transition time.

To the youth who we have loved so dearly during our time here, "just keep swimming." You will have the Lord living in you, and strong adults standing beside you as you storm the world with the gospel and build God's kingdom. We love you and trust that God is going to use you to accomplish great things.

To those that have invested in my family, or helped us in times of need (whether through sickness, car trouble, or flood)...THANK YOU. Every time that you have lifted us up, you have strengthened our impact. I am indebted to you all for helping me take care of my family. I could not have endured some of these trials without your love surrounding us.

To the Bride of Christ, the church: may you continue in your steadfast love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Cling to Him with all your strength and make Him known to all nations. May the Spirit of God dwell richly in you as you love one another, serve those in need, and walk with Him daily. I pray that each of you be conformed into the likeness of Jesus, setting aside all sin and putting on His righteousness so that you may be dressed properly for your wedding day with Jesus. I look forward to seeing each of you at the wedding feast, if not sooner.

Sincerely,
Joshua Doss
Associate Pastor of Youth

Arcadia First Baptist Church

Jerl Watkins
Interim Pastor

Stephen Wilhite
Associate Pastor of Worship

Joshua Doss
Associate Pastor of Youth

Reggie Crosby
Minister

Ken Haynes
Minister

Julie Beanland
Director Children's Ministries
Administrator's Assistant
AFB Christian School

Tammy Berryhill
Financial Administrator

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OR CURRENT OCCUPANT



Youth Camp at Pineywoods: July 16-20

\$50 Deposit due ASAP. On January 2nd Pineywoods opened their registration and we registered those who had already signed up through us. You may still sign up but now a waiting list will be opened and you may register as spots become available. As long as the camp has spots available, we will add campers, up until the final deadline of June 1. Contact Joshua to check availability.

Total cost is \$270. Second payment is \$120 and is due May 1..Final balance of \$100 is due June 1.Forms are available on the table outside the Youth Center.

