

# *Arcadia Baptist*

*Newsletter*

*Volume 19*

*November 2019 - February 2020*



**arcadiafirst**  
baptist church

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## Words from Preach

By: Senior Pastor, Josh McDonald

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Church,

Can you believe it has been exactly one year since my first Sunday at Arcadia? Crazy! I feel like we've only been here a few months. The newness hasn't worn off yet. In fact, I'm still learning about a lot of our church members and still learning the area. Everyday I pull into the parking lot I still say, "I can't believe I work here." I can honestly say that I love our church and our community deeply. I am also excited about what God has planned for us. And on a side note, it is so good to live in a city that has a winning baseball team (game 1 of the World Series was just played as I am writing this) and delicious seafood.

I remember it like it was yesterday. This time last year was a very exciting time for my wife and I. We received a call from the pastor search team while on vacation in August of 2018. It was much needed good news after a rough summer. Shortly afterwards we found ourselves in a whirlwind of excitement and change as we progressed through the interview process. In early September, I spoke with my immediate supervisor at my previous job letting him know of my conversations with our church. A few weeks later in September some of the members of the search team joined us in Rockwall to hear me preach. I didn't think I could be any more nervous. However, by the first weekend in October I was preaching for the search team at FBC Lake Jackson. I was already nervous preaching before a pastor search committee but to add to it the church was recording the service to be aired on TV! The moment I looked up and saw the "Live in 5" sign I almost passed out. I said a quick prayer and God calmed my racing heart as the service began.

All went well and a few weeks later we were coming to Arcadia in view of a call the first weekend in October. I don't remember what I preached, but I do remember the hospitality our church showed us that weekend. I also remember the great food for the lunch on Saturday. Another month would pass before my first official Sunday. We moved into our house the last weekend of October 2018. Stephen came over late that night to help us unload furniture until we got the bed out of the truck (sorry Stephen for putting the bed in first so it was at the back of the U-Haul). The next day a bunch of the men helped us unload the rest. As I laid down to bed that Saturday night with the first official Sunday morning on my mind I remember being incredibly thankful to God for this church and for calling me here. I thank Him for the provisions of help as well. I am still thankful.

As I look back at the transition period for our family I am reminded of the goodness of God. He has given us a great

church family and provided everything we needed to get here. A year ago we had just come out of a miscarriage, I was working two jobs I wasn't fond of, and I was constantly bugging God about a pastoral position. A year later God has given us another child, I am in a pastor position of my dreams, and I am working one job. I don't know why God is good to us, but He is. I have truly experienced the great grace of God in my life and it has radically changed me! Even if everything I have in this life is lost I still have my salvation. I hope you can say the same. What an incredible year it has been! I can't thank you enough for your hospitality, prayers, love and for your service to our church. From our family to yours: We love you all!

Josh



# News & Upcoming Events

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## NOVEMBER

- NOV 9      10am-9pm Heritage Festival - Runge Park
- NOV 10     4pm - Inreach/Outreach Visitation
- NOV 12     4pm - Deacons Meeting - Conference Room
- NOV 16     2pm - Budget & Finance Meeting - Conference Room
- NOV 17     10am-2pm - Samaritans Purse Packing Party - F4
- NOV 17-19    6pm - 28th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration
- NOV 24     BGCT Annual Convention in Waco, TX
- NOV 25-29    Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ingathering
- NOV 27-29    AFBCS Thanksgiving Holiday
- NOV 27-29    MDO Thanksgiving Holiday
- NOV 27     Church Office Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- NOV 27     No Wednesday evening programs or services

## DECEMBER

- DEC 1-8    Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- DEC 6     6pm - Deacons & Wives Christmas Party - F6 & Kitchen
- DEC 7     11am-4pm The Way to the Manger Workday @ AFBC
- Christmas Parade & Christmas in the Park
- 5:30pm - Annual Christmas Parade
- 6:45pm - Annual Tree Lighting at Mae S. Bruce Library
- DEC 10     2pm - Budget & Finance Meeting - Conference Room
- DEC 15     The Way to the Manger Christmas Hayride & Snow Day
- 5pm-8pm @ AFBC (*snow tickets must be purchased in advance*)
- DEC 15     Last day to donate to H.I.S Ministry for the toy drive
- DEC 20-JAN 3 AFBCS Christmas & New Years Holiday
- DEC 20-JAN 1 MDO Christmas & New Years Holiday
- DEC 23-JAN 1 Church Office Closed for Christmas & New Years

## JANUARY

- JAN 4     7:30am-9:30am - Men's Coffee & Fellowship - F4
- JAN 6     AFBCS Teacher Inservice & Student Holiday
- JAN 7     Church Council Meeting - The Youth Center
- JAN 12    4pm - Deacons Meeting - Conference Room
- 6pm - Quarterly Church Business Conference
- JAN 14    2pm - Budget & Finance Meeting - Conference Room
- JAN 18    International Mission Study - Rohingya
- JAN 19    8am - Men's Breakfast - F5/F6
- 4pm - Inreach/Outreach Visitation
- JAN 26    4pm-6pm Annual Chili Cook-off & Devotion
- JAN 30-FEB 1 Senior Adult Winter Retreat - Bro Jim Daniel

## FEBRUARY

- FEB 7     AFBCS's Happy 100th Day of School
- FEB 9     4PM - Deacons Meeting - Conference Room
- FEB 10-16   WMU Focus
- FEB 11     2pm - Budget & Finance Meeting - Conference Room
- FEB 14     AFBCS Student Holiday - Valentine's Day
- FEB 16     8am - Men's Breakfast - F5/F6
- 4pm - Inreach/Outreach Visitation
- FEB 17     AFBCS Teacher Inservice & Student Holiday
- FEB 24-28   Spring Book Fair
- FEB 27     6:30pm - AFBCS Preview Night
- FEB 28     AFBCS Go Texan Day

## AFBC SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

- ♦ OWLS Council - November 7 @ 10:00 am - AFBC Conference Room
- ♦ Piecemakers Quilting Group - Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 10am | F1
- ♦ Outreach Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Comm. Rm

### DECEMBER

- ♦ OWLS Council - December 5 @ 10:00 am - AFBC Conference Room
- ♦ Piecemakers Quilting Group - Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 10am | F1
- ♦ Outreach Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Comm. Rm
- ♦ OWLS Christmas Party - December 14 @ 11:00 am | F4

### JANUARY

- ♦ OWLS Council - January 2 @ 10:00 am - AFBC Conference Room
- ♦ Piecemakers Quilting Group - Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 10am | F1
- ♦ Outreach Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Comm. Rm

### FEBRUARY

- ♦ OWLS Council - November 7 @ 10:00 am - AFBC Conference Room
- ♦ Piecemakers Quilting Group - Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 10am | F1
- ♦ Outreach Bible Study - Tuesdays @ 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Comm. Rm

## H.I.S. MINISTRY DONATION

H.I.S. Ministry is collecting Bath Soap & Cleaning Supplies during the months of November & December and Shampoo & Conditioner during the months of January & February

## ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, January 26th  
4:00pm Check In Time  
4:30pm Judging  
5:00pm Chili Supper  
6:00pm Evening Worship

Prizes awarded to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners

A *fabulous* trophy will be awarded for 1st place

Please contact Stephen Wilhite with any questions

## THE WAY TO THE MANGER

Living Nativity, Hayride and Snow Day for the whole family  
Sunday, December 15  
5pm-8pm | AFBC

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Will kick back off on Sunday, January 12, 2019

**3 Week Class** - held during the Sunday School/Bible Study hour

**9:15am - 10:15am**  
**A3 - Portable Bldg.**

If you would like more information please contact the church office at 409-925-2825

## SUNDAY MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Requests for Sunday morning announcements need to be submitted to the Church office by Thursday the week prior to the Sunday it needs to be announced.

*Thank you for your assistance in making the announcement time in Worship efficient*

## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 24, 2019  
Worship Center | 5pm

## QUARTERLY CHURCH BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Sunday, January 12  
6pm | WC

DEACONS ON CALL

- 11/3 Gene Newton/Mark Higginbotham
  - 11/10 Will Leach/John Rothmel
  - 11/17 Kelly Creech/Loran Lance
  - 11/24 Sammy Belcher/Doug McDowell

NOVEMBER 2019

AFBCS/MDO EVENTS

11/4 - 11/8 Fall Book Fair  
11/25 - 11/29 Teacher/Student Thanksgiving Holiday

**DEACONS ON CALL**

- 12/1 Doug Anderson/Mark Higginbotham  
 12/8 Gene Newton/John Rothermel  
 12/15 Will Leach/Loran Lance  
 12/22 Kelly Creech/Doug McDowell  
 12/29 Sammy Belcher/Mark Higginbotham

# DECEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1. 8am Praise Band Rehearsal - WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service - WC 6pm Children's Choir Rehearsal-TYC 6pm Worship Service - WC	2. 6pm Handbells Rehearsal - TYC 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC 6pm Association Christmas Supper/ Party - Handbells will play for this Decorating for Christmas	3. 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Ameny Bank Community Room 6pm Ladies Kickboxing - AC 6:30pm Remodeling Committee Decorating for Christmas	4. 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm AWANA's - AC 6pm Youth Worship Service -TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- F4 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC	5. 10am OWLs Council Mtg -CR 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC	6. 10am Prayer Force One. 10am-11am Women's Devotion/ Prayer Time—F3 6pm/6:30pm-Deacons/Wives & Staff Christmas Party - FB & Kitchen	7. <b>Lottie Moon Ladies Annual Sip &amp; Sample Cookie Exchange</b> 10am-12pm -F4 (ake or buy cookies (bring copies of recipe if baked)
8. 8am Praise Band Rehearsal - WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service - WC 6pm Children's Choir Rehearsal-TYC 6pm Worship Service - WC	9. 8am Handbells Rehearsal - TYC 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC 2pm Budget & Finance Mtg -CR 6pm Ladies Kickboxing - AC	10. 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Ameny Bank Community Room 6pm AWANA's - AC 6pm Youth Worship Service -TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- F4 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC	11. 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm AWANA's - AC 6pm Youth Worship Service -TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- F4 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC	12. 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC	13. 6am-6pm Prayer Force One 10am-11am Women's Devotion/ Prayer Time—F3 Adult III Sunday School Christmas Party - F4	14. <b>11am OWL's Christmas Party - F4</b>
15. 8am Praise Band Rehearsal - WC 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service - WC 5pm -8pm A Way to the Manger Christmas Hayride & Snow Day @ AFBC (Snow tickets must be purchased in advance)	16. 6pm Handbells Rehearsal - TYC 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC	17. 9:30am Outreach Bible Study @ Ameny Bank Community Room 6pm Ladies Kickboxing - AC	18. 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm AWANA's - AC 6pm Youth Worship Service -TYC 6:30pm Prayer Mtg/Bible Study- F4 7:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal-WC	19. 10am -2pm AFBC Piecemakers-F1 6pm Ladies Bootcamp - AC	20. 6am-6pm Prayer Force One/ 10am-11am Women's Devotion/ Prayer Time—F3	21. <b>MDO CHRISTMAS BREAK DECEMBER 20TH—JANUARY 1ST</b> <b>AFBCS CHRISTMAS BREAK DECEMBER 20TH - JANUARY 3RD</b>
22. 8am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service-WC 6pm Children's Choir Rehearsal-TYC 6pm Worship Service - WC	23. <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	24. <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b> 5pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service WC	25. <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	26. <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	27. <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	28.
29. 8am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:15am SS/Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service-WC 6pm Worship Service - WC	30. <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	31. <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLIDAY</b> <b>ALL FACILITIES CLOSED</b>	1. New Year's Day Office Closed	2. New Year's Day Office Closed	3. New Year's Day Office Closed	4. New Year's Day Office Closed

DEACONS ON CALL

11/05—Kelly Creech/Mark Higginbotham  
1/12—Sammy Belcher/John Rothermel  
1/19—Doug Anderson/Loran Lance  
1/26—Gene Newton/Doug McDowell

# JANUARY 2020

## (Church Business Conference)

AFBCS Events

- 1/1-1/3 AFBCS Teacher Student Holiday
- 1/6 - AFBCS Teacher Inservice/Student Holiday
- 1/20 - AFBCS Teacher Inservice/Student Holiday

DEACONS ON CALL

- 2/02 - Will Leach/John Rothermel
  - 2/09 - Kelly Creech/Loran Lance
  - 2/16 - Sammy Belcher/Doug McDowell
  - 2/23 - Doug Anderson/Mark Higginbotham

FEBRUARY 2020

- 2/14 - AFBCS TABS Training/Student Holiday
- 2/17 - AFBCS Teacher in-service/Student Holiday
- 2/24-2/28 AFBCS Spring Book Fair
- 2/27 - 6:30pm - AFBCS Preview Night

AFBCS EVENTS



PO Box 128  
Santa Fe, TX 77517

**Josh McDonald**  
Senior Pastor

**Stephen Wilhite**  
Associate Pastor of Worship

**Kyle Thompson**  
Interim Youth Pastor

**Reggie Crosby**  
Minister

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

**Tammy Berryhill**  
Financial Administrator

**Amanda Sweat**  
Media Secretary

**Shelbi Butler**  
Church Secretary

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

(If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please contact the church office to be taken off of our mailing list)



**Sunday Worship Schedule**

9:15am – Sunday School/Bible Study  
10:30am – Morning Worship Service  
6:00pm - Children's Bible Study  
6:00pm – Evening Worship Service

**Wednesday Worship Schedule**

6:00pm - AWANA Club  
6:00pm – Youth Worship Service  
6:30pm – Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
7:30pm - Worship Choir Rehearsal

**Mission Statement:**

Our mission is to call all people to be devoted followers of Christ