

First Baptist Church

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Non-Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Cotulla, TX 78014

AUGUST 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Pastors Prayer Meeting	AGENDA DEADLINE		Church Administrators Fellowship Meeting 10:30am FRBA office
			Prayer Meeting 6pm	Praise Team 7pm Pokemon Go Event 7-9pm		
			The ROCK 7pm			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Praise Team 9:15 am	Finance Committee	Awana Leaders Meeting 6pm FRBA Ex. Board Meeting 6:30pm	Business Meeting 6pm	Praise Team 7pm	Deacons Retreat Aug. 12-13	
SALT 7pm			The ROCK 7pm			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Praise Team 9:15 am						
Youth Council Meeting 4pm			Prayer Meeting 6pm	Praise Team 7pm	Feed the CISD Staff 11:00 am	
SALT 7pm			The ROCK 7pm			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Praise Team 9:15 am	First day of school		Prayer Meeting 6pm	Praise Team 7pm		Sunday School Clinic @ FBC Charlotte 8:30-12:30
Cantata Practice 7pm						
SALT 7pm			The ROCK 7pm			
28	29	30	31	August Birthdays		
Praise Team 9:15 am			Staff Meeting 8 am	08 Phillip Montgomery 11 Cameron Bell 13 Jim Leifeste 24 Matt Kinsel 24 Ruth Montgomery Hash		
Cantata Practice 7pm	Men's Bible Study 7pm		Prayer Meeting 6pm			
SALT 7pm			The ROCK 7pm			

THE MESSENGER

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, COTULLA, TX

Pastor's Thoughts...

In Deuteronomy 31:8, as Joshua was being prepared to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land, Moses said to him: "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." This verse came to mind as I thought about Dora's and my trip to Lima, Peru last month. God had indeed gone before us. He had prepared the way and He had put together the right team for the week. Members from 5 churches made up our team, with FBC Carrizo Springs leading the way. Churches in Lima were prepared to receive us. Lost people's hearts were prepared to receive the Good News. God was with us as He protected us from dangers. He kept us healthy and alert for the long days of door-to-door visiting, witnessing in the parks and streets, visiting in some schools, and preaching and sharing testimonies in the churches at night. We never really felt afraid, even though potential danger was around us (for a city of 12 million people, danger is bound to be present). We were not discouraged.

We saw the Lord work in so many different ways and in the lives of people we met. We were where God wanted us to be at the moment.

Dora and I and the rest of the team are back home now. Can Deut. 31:8 still apply to us today? I believe so. When we become His children, God will always be with us and take care of us. We will still encounter problems and challenges, for we live in a sin stained world. But even then, He is with us and will protect and help us. What an awesome God we serve!

I want to encourage you to live out your faith in God. Serve Him when an opportunity comes. Share His love and goodness to those who are down and out. Pray for one another and others. Go out and evangelize your world, and when necessary, use words (Saint Francis of Assisi). God will go before you and He will be with you all the time.

Your Pastor and Friend,
Bro. Loren Fast

Here, There, and Yonder.... FBC on Missions



"Dora and I were part of a mission team to Lima, Peru this past month. What a blessing to see so many people make decisions for the Lord, as well as to see churches strengthened and encouraged. Thank you so much for your prayer support during this trip. God was with us and worked through us to minister to the people of Lima."



The youth had a great time at Alto Frio Area Youth Camp July 3-8th. While there, July 4th, we broke the world's record for the longest hot dog chain!!



ROCK ON WEDNESDAY
JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
@ 7-8:30 PM



Rock Thoughts

“ But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:22-25

This summer, my family and I had the opportunity to spend a week in northern Colorado. It was such a joy being surround by the beautiful Rocky Mountains. It's so easy to marvel at the Lord's creation while watching deer and elk roam and eagles fly among pine and aspen trees along rocky bluffs and and welcoming valleys.

While there, we got to go white water rafting down the wild and scenic river, Cache le Poudre. This was a new and exciting experience for us, and one that we all look forward to doing again. However, while on the river, God revealed some fantastic insight to the work or the Holy Spirit.

When you are white water rafting it is very important to listen to and follow the instructions of your guide. The guide will tell you when to paddle, but sometimes it's only one or two strokes at a time. the guide choose the path you take down the river. Even when it may seem to you that another path would be better. Sometimes the guide will ask you to paddle forward when the boat is floating sideways down river. Here's the secret: the guide knows the river. He's the one steering the boat. He knows what's under the water's surface. He knows what's lying ahead just around the bend. He knows the best course through the rapids. He's the guide, not you.

This is just like the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. He guides us according the the will and word of God. He knows what's ahead. He's steering and we are called to take the steps He tells us to...even when it doesn't make sense to us at the time.

As believers, we have the Holy Spirit, our guide, with us always. So, we also possess the fruit that the Spirit produces. As we seek to “live by the Spirit” and “keep in step with the Spirit” we will see that we have a life filled with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. All we need to do is use it!

As summer ends and school begins and we return the fall schedule of sports, Friday nights, and homework, Let the Spirit do the steering and enjoy the scenery around us as we allow the Spirit's fruit to sweeten our lives.

*In Christ,
Jonathan*



VBS Encinal



C.I.S.D. Personnel Luncheon will be August, 19 at 11:00 AM. If you would like to help by volunteering your time or donating a dessert come by the office and sign up. For more information call the Church Office 879-3615



Love Offering Opportunity

Baptist University of the Americas (BUA) has established an emergency housing fund for ministerial students with housing needs. If you would like to donate to this fund, checks may be written to FBC for “BUA Housing”. The money received will be sent directly to BUA. If you have any questions, please contact Dora Fast.

Welcome New FBC members

Byron, Alycia Jamie, Emma & Tyler Reynolds



Stephen & Terry Lange



Noe's Ark

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

It is uplifting and encouraging when we see the body of Christ in action. We celebrate together and we also mourn together. There are circumstances in our lives that are difficult to understand but when there is a time of need, the church should rally around the family and help take care of their needs during a very trying time.

Are you connected to the body of believers? I am not simply asking if you make it to church on Sunday. It is easy to attend the worship service and disappear out the back door before the service ends and to have no one know your name. God provides us with each other to walk through life. He wants you to be connected and find support and comfort in the Body of Christ. We will all do better when we don't try to go after life on our own, but when we go with support.

So when we experience situations in our lives regardless of whether it is the death of a loved one, the birth of a new child, the teenage struggles, relationship and financial issues, the pain of a divorce – we have fellow Christians who can come encourage us and walk through life's struggles and victories with us, rejoicing when we rejoice and mourning with us when we mourn. God does not desire anyone to have to do life alone, but community doesn't just happen. You must make the choice to join in fellowship with other believers.

On another note, the music for the Cantata has already been order and should be here like now. The cd's with the individual voices and demo have also been order and a copy will be given to those who will participate in the cantata this year. Our first practice will began August 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Be in prayer, let the Holy Spirit lead and speak to you, if you feel that this is a ministry where He can use you; we would love to have you be a part of this ministry!

*In Christ,
Noe Rodriguez*