

FBC NEWSLETTER

Embracing Our History | Engaging Our Future | Inspiring Worship

Focus On: EC Prep Day

More than 80 people came out to help prepare for our biggest local mission effort on Saturday by working in the Chapel to set up for Experience Christmas 2025! FBC answered the call in a huge way!

Nearly 100 trees were assembled, "fluffed," and lit in one morning because of the many hands. People of all ages chipped in. We had senior adults stringing lights, younger folks on 12' ladders, lifts, and scaffolding, young people laying on the floor centering



trees, to our very youngest kiddos testing lights and fluffing their own "baby" trees. It was a fun, heartwarming, full-church-body time of service. With Christmas music playing and lots of laughter, it



A Word from Our Pastor

For Florida Baptists, November is the month that we hold our annual meeting. This year that meeting will be held in Orlando. If you are unfamiliar with how the Southern Baptist denomination (SBC) is structured let me give you a brief overview. The church is the top of our denomination which means that all Southern Baptist churches are independent. This means no one from the denomination tells us what to do, what to teach, who to hire, or what activities to hold. Instead the local church tells the denomination what to do. Our church also belongs to a small association of churches here in the northern part of our county. Additionally, we also belong to the Florida Baptist Convention which is comprised of all the SBC churches in our state. We support our denomination through a percentage of our undesignated offerings. When we collect that money, we first send it to the denominational headquarters in Florida (Jacksonville), and they keep about 50%. The other 50% is passed on to the national headquarters in Nashville where it is divided up between the various seminaries and mission organizations. What stays in Florida does the work of supporting theological education, church planting, the Florida Baptist Children's Home (One More Child), as well as the various state denominational workers who assist churches.

Our church decided many years ago to be a part of the SBC denomination and to cooperate with other SBC churches to do the work of the Gospel. This month at our annual meeting we will elect leaders and make decisions regarding the various issues facing our denomination. I will be attending the meeting this year and I plan on bringing a short report to the church after that meeting. Please be praying for our state denomination as we do the work the Lord has called us to do.

Grace and Peace be Multiplied to You,

Stan Lewis

felt a lot more like fun than work. (We even had homemade cookies from one sweet member - they disappeared quickly!!)

There are still tasks to accomplish, so please let me know if you can volunteer. We'd also appreciate any donation to help cover some of the costs - you can give online at fbcew.org/-give and just specify "Experience Christmas."



Most importantly, we need you to spread the word by inviting friends, family, and neighbors. We have EC flyers in the church office if you'd like to drop by to pick some up - you can hand them out to anyone you'd like to share EC with. We also have some EC yard signs available if you'd like to put one out in your yard to spread the word!

As always, I ask that you lift the whole event up in prayer - that the message of the gospel and the hope of Christmas will be clearly shared to our entire community!

Laura Kitchen

Thoughts from Pastor Andrew

Waaaaay back when I was in high school, my home church in Huntsville, AL took a group of youth all the way to the mountains of southwest Colorado to work at a camp for underprivileged kids. Through those summer trips out to Camp Redcloud, the Lord did a work in my life and gave me a desire to serve Him outside of my normal, comfortable world. He taught us of servanthood, depending on Him in our weakness, His love for kids, putting other's needs and preferences before our own, and that there was a huge world of individuals out there who need Jesus.



"God's piece of rope"

Since that time, God has opened doors for many other ministry and missions trips that have shaped my walk with Him. God has also often demonstrated His love of miraculously providing what we need. On one missions trip with our church in North Carolina, one side of the back bumper of the church bus fell off and was dragging the ground. We were on a stretch of rural interstate and had nothing to hold it in place and hobble to the next exit. Glancing to the grass next to the bus, what did we find? A length of rope. Just long enough to secure the bumper and get to a shop. I still have that rope in my office as a reminder of God's awesome provision!

FBC's recent trip to Honduras was no exception to seeing God's hand at work. As the team shared last Sunday, God did awesome things, often working directly through our perceived weaknesses. If you haven't experienced an

out-of-town missions or ministry trip, I would encourage you to pray and see if God might want you to consider taking a step in that direction. Opportunities and needs are everywhere! While the purpose of going is to serve God and have an impact on others for the Kingdom, you just might have your own walk with God deepened in the process also.



Pastor Andrew

Family Focus: Fall Festival

What a privilege we have of serving the Lord together! This past weekend, many of us came together to serve our community by hosting a Fall Festival in our side parking lot. We had lots of fun with many different games, a bouncy house, cake walk, face painting, popcorn and home-made ice cream.

This year, I decided to have a



homemade ice cream competition, and it was a big hit! We had about nine entries into the contest, and they were all very good!

Continued in next column

Missions & Media

Thanksgiving. Christmas.
2026. Repeat...

Time is constant. It never stops. We are riding the train of time until our destination is reached, Heaven. The question we must ask ourselves is, “What am I doing with each moment of the day?” Typical answer: Get up. Eat. Go to work, school, errands, go to bed, repeat...



We must ‘manage’ our time or else someone or something else will. Our time here on Earth is limited and each moment valuable. Investing time outweighs financial investment. Why? You will not take one cent to Heaven. On the other hand, the time we invest in His Kingdom will go with us AND will remain here as well. Your ‘legacy’ lives on here in the hearts and minds of those you impacted. What better then to leave a legacy that continues to pay eternal dividends. Example: Jesus, Peter, James, John, Paul, Luke, the Apostles, Prophets, loved ones who loved God.

Time flies. Time is constant. Time is equal to all. Make your time count for His Kingdom, invest in others, attend to your daily commitments and enjoy each moment He affords you.

It’s time I wrap this up and begin my day...

Pastor Chuck

Continued from first column

First place prize went to Jessica Williams for her Cookies and Cream Ice Cream, and second and third place prizes went to Nancy and Victoria Strong for their chocolate and vanilla ice creams. But I can honestly say that all the entries were amazing!

I would like to say a big thank you to all of those who brought candy and sodas, baked cakes, and showed up to serve at our Fall Festival. It takes everyone to make an event like the Fall Festival happen, and I am blessed to be able to serve alongside such a wonderful church family!

Beth Hendricks

Staff



Dr. Stan Lewis
Lead Pastor



Andrew Heathershaw
Worship Pastor



Chuck Walthall
Missions & Media Pastor



Beth Hendricks
Children's Ministries Director

Our Service Times

- Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am
- Live Online @ fbcew.org
- Sunday School 9:00am
- Wednesday Scripture Studies 6:00pm
- Plus Worship Choir, Student & Children's Ministries and more!

171 Hickory Ave | Crestview, FL 32536
(850) 682-2544 | staff@fbcew.org
Office Hours: M-F 8-5 | Closed 12-1

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Mission Trip Update: Honduras 2025

To God be the Glory!!

First, thank you Church for your prayers and support for Honduras 2025.

Special thanks to Kyle West for driving us to the airport, to Chuck Walthall for meeting and praying for our group at the airport, to Glenn Meyers for picking us up at the airport when we returned, and to Laura Kitchen and her staff for the many hours of work preparing our booklets and other areas of need.

Our goal was to be useful for the Kingdom, to teach, train, and equip the youth in the area of sexual purity and living (with God's help) with a pure heart.

During the mission trip, the team served a local village house church with Andrew bringing a gospel message. The team was able to pray for the owner of the home who had health issues. In addition, 45 bags of rice and beans were provided for the village.

On day two we were able to visit the children's home and provide a blessing to the house moms with a personal gift. Ida Faye and Kelly did an awesome job with the younger children by sharing the story of David vs. Goliath - Andrew played the role of the big guy and Dale's role was the guy with strong faith and a good arm.

The youth conference began Friday afternoon with over 170 youth and leaders attending the event. The event included 4 teaching sessions, small group breakouts, and multiple games for the students to enjoy including soccer, ping pong, volleyball, and dodge ball.

A number of decisions were made by the students during the weekend including salvations, re-dedications, and commitments to sexual purity and waiting until marriage.

Finally, the group attended a worship service on Sunday evening at the local church close to the Seminary. Andrew brought the message.

Please join us in praying for the students as they apply the lessons taught. Also pray for Honduras 2026 and the message to be delivered as God directs.

Dale Rice

