

FBC NEWSLETTER

Embracing Our History | Engaging Our Future | Inspiring Worship

Focus On: Volunteers

Saturday October 19 was the Experience Christmas Work Day...dozens of volunteers of all ages showed up to help. The productivity of the day meant we left the chapel and halls with over 50 trees set up, fluffed, and lit - ready for our community! It was a blessing to see everyone working together and chipping in however they could. Our youngest volunteers tested all the lights to make



sure they were still working, our men and students assembled the biggest and tallest trees, and volunteers from every generation spent time adding lights and making sure everything looked "just so."

There is still a lot to do to finalize all of the details, plus we need a lot of volunteers to be at the church on the day of Experience Christmas,



A Word from Our Pastor

November is the month that we turn our hearts towards heaven in thankfulness. For Christians, thankfulness should be expressed daily, but it is good that we have this specific time to come together as a family and express our thanks to our Savior for all He has done. I am so thankful for all the Lord has done and is doing through our family here at First Baptist.

November is also when our various committees finish our budgeting process. Every Christian in our family should spend time with the Lord and ask Him to show them what they should give towards His work. Just as the Lord deals with each of His children personally and specifically, He has individualized and particular plans for your giving. As you are thinking and praying about what the Lord would have you give for 2025, do so with the words the Holy Spirit gave our brother, Paul: *"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."* 2 Corinthians 9:7 – 8. As you do the ministry the Lord has called you to do, He will give you sufficient resources for that work, just as He will provide our church with the resources it needs to do the work we are called to do as a family. As we are faithful to obey His will for our lives, we will see great and mighty things take place.

Church family, I am thankful for you and your faithfulness in doing and supporting the work of Christ here in Crestview and around the world. May the Lord multiply his mercy, grace, and peace to you.

Pastor Stan

which is Saturday, Dec 7th, to welcome our community into FBC. Please let us know if you are available and willing to help by calling the church office or emailing us at staff@fbcew.org.

A few of our volunteers at the EC Work day had come directly from a week working in Perry, FL assisting with hurricane clean up efforts. They were able to get a lot accomplished in that area last month: cutting up downed trees and hauling off debris. The team consisted



of Rodney Nobles, Luke Tucker, Danny Heathershaw, Rolando Hernandez, Bryan Pattin, Jada Joseph, Mike McVay and Dave Davidson. Jada shared how much hard work was done and the great lengths our volunteers went to in order to be sure the work was done correctly! Even in the midst of the chaos and mess, Jada said she found evidence of God's hand and the permeating beauty of creation.

EC Work Day and Hurricane Relief are just two examples of the many ways our church body serves God and reaches others with His love.

Check out fbcew.org for lots of ways you can get involved in serving!

Laura Kitchen

Vote No on Amendment 4

The mind of a curious seven-year old is often a source of challenging conversations. Last week we had an unusually tough question from ours:

"Hey Dad, why is that big "Vote No on 4" sign in our yard?"

"Well, sweetheart, it's about a new abortion law [amendment] that everyone in Florida will be voting on next month."

"What is abortion?"

(Long pause while dad tries to figure out the best words to explain this travesty in the language of a seven-year-old girl)

"Some people want to make it ok to kill babies in their mommy's tummy if they decide they don't want them."

(With horror and confusion in her eyes) *"Why would they want to do that?"*

"I don't know....but some people think it's ok. But we know that God says all life, and all babies, are precious to Him and they should be precious to us also."

"That's terrible..... I'm really glad my birth mommy didn't kill me in her tummy."

"Me too, sweetheart, me too..."



I have heard the word "abortion" so often that I confess I have become desensitized - it seems so abstract and far away. But that day, when I contemplated that one of my children might not be alive if her birth mother had made a different choice, the importance of standing for LIFE was brought home to me at a very different level.

Estimates indicate that 40,000 more children will be aborted and killed in Florida each year if Amendment 4 passes on November 5. Information about the text and implications of this deceptive amendment is available at the church.

Polling is very close on Amendment 4 and the results likely will depend on turnout. Other polls have indicated that up to 45% of Christians don't plan to vote this year and this would be a great help to 4 passing.

Please get out and Vote No on Amendment 4 and encourage family and friends to do the same. As God's people, we can do nothing less but stand for life.

Pastor Andrew

Family Focus: Thankfulness

“Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.” Psalm 118:1

After a big weekend like we had at the Fall Festival last weekend, I walk away in awe at how good our Lord is. When events run seamlessly, and I get to watch the church at work serving our community, I am thankful for so many reasons.

First, I am thankful that I have been given the opportunity to be a part of this church family and to be able to serve the Lord through my job here.

Second, I am very thankful for our church staff who pitch in to do whatever needs to be done. For Laura, working on all the marketing and a lot of the little details, Stan, taking a turn monitoring the bouncy house, Andrew and family,



setting up and cleaning up, and Andrew, Chuck and Laura, all being our judges for the chili cookoff. They all give sacrificially of their time, even when they don't have to.

Missions & Media: Nepal Mission Trip

As of the publishing date of this article, Mark and I are a couple days from departing for Nepal. We are both excited and anxious to teach & encourage our Nepali brothers and sisters. Servant Leadership is our



curriculum and HIS presence will ensure both our safety and the pastors' comprehension of the study's content.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Nepal ministry. The following is our trip itinerary and prayer

requests. We look forward to our return home and providing you a report.

Nov 4 ~ 5: Pray for safe travel (flights) from Pensacola to Kathmandu.

Nov 6: Pray for safe in-country travel; Kathmandu to Charikot

Nov 7: Pray for safe flight from Manthali to Lukla. Lukla is the world's most dangerous airport [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenzing-Hillary_Airport]

Nov 8 ~ 10: Pray for our daily time of study with the Nepali pastors (Servant Leadership)

Nov 11 ~ 12: Pray for our trek back to Lukla and flight back to Manthali

Nov 13: Pray for our time in Charikot. Reviewing and summarizing Servant Leadership study with the pastors.

Visiting with the young students Mission Ascend supports (scholarships) at Modern Nepal School.

Nov 14: Pray for safe travel back to Kathmandu

Nov 15 ~ 16: Pray for our time in Kathmandu

Singing and praying while walking in Kathmandu and various Hindu and Buddhist temples

Celebrating Shakti's birthday

Nov 17 ~ 18: Pray for our safe travel home.
Arriving in Pensacola Monday 18th ~ 3:00PM

Pastor Chuck

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

- www.fbcew.org
- First Baptist Church of Crestview
- Firstbaptistcrestview
- First Baptist Crestview
- Podcast on Spotify & more

www.fbcew.org

Student Happenings

Guest writer, Dale Rice, has a passion for missions and students and shares his thoughts here:

If the Lord tarries,

As the time draws closer and closer to the Lord's return, let us have Him find us busy about His business sharing the Good News and serving others. We are truly blessed to be a part of a church on mission.

Recently we had 10 members travel to Honduras to serve alongside missionaries Jeff and Misti Fairchild. Our group shared testimonies of the importance of our mothers. We had the opportunity to speak with a large number of mothers. At the end of our testimonies, our lead translator, Jose, spoke and took individual prayer request from the moms. It was a special time. (We look forward to Jose visiting us in December to share a testimony!)

While a number of us were working with the moms, the other members were sharing, teaching, and working with a large number of children with arts and crafts and Bible stories.

In addition, we held a youth conference for 140 young people with an intense focus on prayer including the opportunity to have small group time with the



young people. We were able to have volleyball matches, soccer matches, ping pong tournaments, and fun games of dodge ball. We are asking for prayer for God's will regarding a possible mission trip to Honduras in 2025.

Additional prayer is requested for the recently-appointed Youth Pastor Search Committee: Phil Nyderek, Mitch Buckelew, Katrina West, Ida Faye Powell, Dale Rice, and alternates, Laura Kitchen (not pictured) and Tomasz Bielenin.

Finally, we continue to have our quarterly prayer breakfast during the year. This is a special time to pray and to hear our mission activities and often times we are able to have missionaries outside of our church share.

Remain focused and alert in these difficult times. We have a great Hope that we need to share.

Dale Rice

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And last, I am so thankful for all the people who pitched in to make the Fall Festival a successful event. From everyone who brought candy, cakes, sodas, and chili, to those who showed up early to help set up, and those who sat outside in the heat running games and serving food, you all made this event possible. Thank you all so much for giving of your time to serve our community.

Beth Hendricks