

FBC NEWSLETTER

Embracing Our History | Engaging Our Future | Inspiring Worship

Focus On: Disaster Relief

The Okaloosa Baptist Disaster Relief Team will be responding to Hurricane Helene on October 13th thru the 18th. If anyone is interested in doing cleanup and recovery in the affected area please contact Rodney Nobles through the church office.

Rodney has made many recovery trips in response to disasters. “The need is great. When you see what people are going through and how they are suffering it will open your eyes to the needs right here close to home,” he shared.



The nature and variety of work means there is a place for everyone to serve: putting tarps on roofs, cutting trees, removing debris, doing “mud out” cleaning in homes that have been flooded, plus massive amounts of cooking, administration needs, chaplains, medical assistance, truck driving, and so much more.

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A Word from Our Pastor

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 – 13

October is “Pastor Appreciation Month,” and First Baptist Church is a place that highly esteems those who work in the ministry, and it is much appreciated. These two verses could fix a great deal of the problems that are in many churches here in our culture. While it may seem self-serving to reference these verses, it is nonetheless a command given to the church to take care of those called to lead. That being said, when we fail to teach our people to treat those in the ministry Biblically and “esteem them very highly,” we are inviting chaos and heartbreak into our churches because those leaders will no longer teach the Word, labor faithfully, and admonish the church because they will labor out of fear of mistreatment. So, it is imperative that we teach this principle to the church so as to have healthy congregations and workers who labor with joy and gladness of heart.

Church family, I want to thank you for obeying these verses. I can honestly say that I have always felt “highly esteemed” by my brothers and sisters here at First Baptist. This speaks to your spiritual maturity and love of the Scriptures. May the Lord continue to multiply His mercy, grace, and peace to you all.

With Love and Gratitude,

Pastor Stan

Florida Baptist Relief partners with the Red Cross to feed the volunteers and the victims of disasters. "Red Cross provides the food," Rodney said, "we do the cooking!"



"The Big Bend area is a very depressed area; this is the third hurricane in two years and the second this summer. The work we did in June was basically just re-doing the work from last year. The people we meet are suffering greatly. They need prayers."

Rodney and many others will be doing assessments in the lead up to the October 13th trip to determine the scope and locations of recovery efforts. Please be in prayer for the volunteers, and the victims of the storm.

Anyone who can volunteer needs to go *right away* to fbaptist.org/disasterrelief/ for the background clearance forms required to volunteer. You can also check out our website for the link and more information, fbcew.org/ministries.

The ultimate goal is to help in times of need so that we can share the Gospel that will meet the greatest need, the need for a Savior.

Laura Kitchen

Kids Choir

Our fall season of Kids Choir + Art will be kicking off Sunday, October 6th! Kids (grades 1-6) will gather from 5:00-6:00pm in the Kid Zone room on the second floor of the Education Building. Using fun songs and art activities, we will be learning to use our voices and talents to serve and glorify the Lord! The kids will also be working on some Christmas songs to share with the church in early December.



Why is Kids Choir so important? Beyond the simple enjoyment of the singing and art experience, childhood involvement in the arts can unlock brain pathways that last for a lifetime. These pathways are for



overall learning and personal musical development but also form a desire to worship the Lord through the arts as an adult.

Please pray for our leaders: Suzanne Hartzog, Carolyn Smith, Gai Williams (art), and Kathy Shelton (art) as they prepare and for the kids as they partici-

pate. We hope your kids and grandkids will be able to join in! Each new face makes a difference. Sign up now at www.fbcew.org/events .

Pastor Andrew

Haiti Mission Update: Lorna Faircloth

Church member, Lorna Faircloth, is heading to Haiti October 22-31 to update child sponsorships for www.hishandssupportministries.org/haiti. Pray for her and her team's safety as they travel and work.



They are collecting old cell phone and laptops, as well as taking monetary donations for the Haitians to help with medical and other needs. Contact Lorna@hishandsforhaiti.org with any questions.

Family Focus: Fall Festival

Fall is upon us, and that means that the Fall Festival is right around the corner!



On Saturday, October 26 from 3:30 to 6pm we will host our community for a fun afternoon of games, food and fellowship. But, to do this, I need your help.

First, I need people to open the trunks of their cars and provide a game or activity for the kids to do. You can plan your own activities, or you can let me know and I'll provide you one from several I have available.

Second, I need donations of candy, 2 liter bottles of soda, and cakes. Collection boxes are already out all around the church, so bring the



candy and 2 liter sodas anytime this month.

Sign up sheets will be available for

Missions & Media: Mission Update



When I am given the opportunity of fill in for Stan, I count it a great privilege and great responsibility - to be true to God's Word and share what He put on my heart. There are times when the message is uplifting. There are times when the message is rather pointed (convicting). My prayer is always that the message will be both encouraging and instructional.

Our spiritual gifts are for 'building up the body.' His Word is "*profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*"

(2 Timothy 3:16). Thank you for

the opportunities to teach, preach and encourage!

Mark Welton and I are just four weeks from departing for Nepal. November 4th is our departure date, returning November 18th. Our itinerary, along with specific prayer requests for each day, will be available prior to our departure. Please begin praying now as we anticipate, with excitement, returning to Nepal and teaching & encouraging our Nepali pastors and leaders. You are so faithful in your giving to missions.



We will be faithful in delivering what He has commissioned us to share.

This year will be our fifth Experience Christmas. Under the leadership of Rhett Williams, I anticipate

this year will be the best yet. Get involved! Allocate some time! Be a part of local missions; Experience Christmas 2024 "Heaven and Nature Sing".

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!

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

www.fbcew.org

Student Happenings

While we are in the process of filling the vacant Student Pastor position here at FBC many people are joining together to minister to our students. A rotating team of volunteers are teaching the Youth Sunday School class on Sunday mornings and Mitch Buckelew has taken on the task of teaching the students in the Student Center on Wednesday nights. Mitch shared some of the activities our students have been taking part in:



“Our youth took part in the community "See You at the Pole" prayer time at their schools (before school), and the meeting on September 25 at Woodlawn Baptist Church, from 6-7:30 pm.

Also, they will enjoy listening to future IMB missionaries on October 6, during their morning Bible Study time.”

Another upcoming event is the Night of Worship on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:00-7:15pm in the Student Center, coordinated by Nicole Bielenin. All students and adults are invited to this special night of candlelit worship and praise music. We hope you'll come support FBC students during this time of transition and encourage our young people with your presence.

Mitch's request of us is to: “Please pray for our students during this time, and those adult leaders who are teaching, the process of finding an Interim Student Minister, and the search team as they seek the man God will lead here.”

Laura Kitchen

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the cakes, and we will receive those cakes anytime the Wednesday before the event (Oct 23rd) until the day of the event (Oct 26).

And last, but certainly not least, we will be holding our third annual Chili Cook-off. So, for all of you out there who make a savory pot of chili, we need you to sign up in person or online to bring your favorite recipe. We will have first, second, and third place winners for both traditional and non-traditional pots of chili.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Festival this month!

Beth Hendricks