

FBC ALBA NEWS

Dr. Kelly Burton pastor

What A Church! As I write my March 2024 article, February is not over. *What a month!* Around the 3rd of February I simply turned the wrong way and felt a pop in my lower left back. A couple of other issues spawned a whirlwind of anxiety and immense physical discomfort.

I remember challenging the Wednesday night Bible Study group back in January with this question: “*Can you explain the unique connection Paul makes with suffering and rejoicing?*” Little did I know it was my own question that was poised for my own response, not yours. If that was an essay exam question, I think I would have failed it.

But what a Church! Your personal texts, cards, emails, and phone calls have been anointed by God’s Spirit. Just like Solomon said, “*A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver*” Proverbs 25:11. Karen and I keep saying, “What a Church!” By the time this article hits the office printer I hope to have some answers.

I am not very good at this! I do not do well being still. There are people to see, sermons to write, books to read, seminary classes to complete, a wonderful church to shepherd, and important walks with a certain little six-year-old boy whom Tricia Dougharty cleverly calls “*Rocket Man*.” I don’t have three little reminders that I am learning about adversity because I am still in it. I did read a helpful section from one of my favorite writers, Ralph Herring:

Almost the first and always the inevitable cry wrung from the heart of any sufferer is the word “*Why?*” It is one of the most maddening questions in human experience. Even Jesus cried in agony from the cross, “*My God, My God, why?*” We need to recognize that life is made up of situations, one after another—some good, some bad. We are no sooner out of one set of circumstances than we are into another. Like the physician, if we fail in our diagnosis of a case, we will inevitably come up with the wrong treatment.

So, listen to the pastor. We must get the *diagnosis* of adversity right. The devil has something to do with our troubles, but ultimately God is responsible for all of it. He will not allow the enemy to test us without His personal supervision of every case. Once we have the proper diagnosis then comes the treatment or life application. Go to God our Helper and get up under His mighty hand (1 Peter 5:6). The phrase is a synonym for humbling yourself under your Creator. Then the good part! “*After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you*” (1 Peter 5:10). Properly diagnose your adversity as coming from God, then apply the treatment from His Word.

Experiencing God: In God’s time we will begin the course that will help you hear God speak and join Him where He is at work. By now all of you have your workbooks. Please don’t work ahead of the class. The work is best done together. Thank you for understanding.

Easter Sunrise Service: March 31, at Lake Fork Marina, at 7:00 am. It will be a great Easter Sunday at the best church in Alba. Free Family Easter pictures, a nice pancake breakfast before Sunday School, and a message of hope from the Word of God. Invite an unchurched friend.

Keeping On Together, Pastor Kelly, Karen, and Camden!

Ralph A. Herring, *God Being My Helper* (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1955), 58-59.

March Birthdays

Kalli Trimble	01	Trica Dougharty	15
Braden Crutchfield	02	Karen Carpenter	15
Ricky Combs	02	Martha Taylor	20
Treva Humphries	04	Joann Owen	21
Levi Littlejohn	04	Zella Littlejohn	21
Karen Burton	06	Savannah Burnett	26
Pastor Kelly Burton	06	Bill Latimer	27
Sharon Williams	08	Val Riley	28
Christ Schuttler	10	Margie Harris	30
Tina Margos	13		

FBCA Family,

I pray this article finds you well. To recap the month of February, we had a successful month in the Lord. Beginning with our fire night on February 10th, we had an awesome evening at the FLC. We saw 3 new students join us for fire night. Shane Reynolds shared his testimony with the students about his wreck experience. His story is really neat, you need to listen to it sometime! He gave God all the glory. The youth band did an excellent job with the music. Thank you to all of the adults that served and made this event a success. Stephanie and I are so proud of the adults and students.

Furthermore, the youth and adult volunteers really came together to provide an excellent meal following the services on Sunday Feb. 11th. I want to thank you very much for your support of the students. Altogether, we raised \$1500 for the students to put it towards their Super Summer cost. I am blown away by your generosity! Thank you for supporting our students in our efforts to teach them to know and share the Gospel!

On March 13th, we will be taking the youth bowling and out to eat in Sulphur Springs during their spring break. Students will need to bring money to eat and for any arcade games. They are encouraged to invite their friends. We should be home around 8pm.

We are currently going through the book of James on Wednesday nights. James calls us out of a comfortable life, and challenges us to show our faith by our works. They youth are challenged each week to apply what they have learned. I encourage you to go up and ask them what they are learning sometime! Sunday mornings have been spent in the book of Judges. We are just now learning about Gideon. His faith doubted God and asked for signs. Stephanie and I are encouraging the students to live by faith and not by sight.

Thank you for all of your support,

Brennan, Stephanie, & FBCA's youth!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 First Baptist Church Alba Reaching Out - Growing Together					1	2
3	4	5	6 Wednesday Night Meal - Classes 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7 GriefShare 4:00 p.m.	8	9 Ladies Brunch 10-12 (noon)
10 Deacon's Meeting	11	12	13 Wednesday Night Meal - 5:00-5:30 p.m. Open Gym 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Classes 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	14 GriefShare 4:00 p.m.	15	16
17	18	19	20 Wednesday Night Meal - 5:00-5:30 p.m. Classes 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	21 GriefShare 4:00 p.m.	22	23 Men's Breakfast 8:00am
24 31 "SonRise" Service 7am- Lake Fork Marina Pancake Breakfast—FLC No Children's Church	25	26	27 Wednesday Night Meal - 5:00-5:30 p.m. Classes 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	28 GriefShare 4:00 p.m.	29	30 

SUNDAY

9:00am PRAYER
9:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:45am WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY

5:00pm - 5:30pm
MEAL TIME
5:30pm - 6:00pm
OPEN GYM
6:00 - 7:00pm
PRAYER/DEVOTIONAL
MISSION FRIENDS
RAs - ROYAL AMBASSADORS
GAs - GIRLS IN ACTION
6:00pm - 7:00pm
BIBLE STUDY - Sanctuary
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Fellowship Classroom
FBC ABLAZE - Youth - FLC

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Growing Youth Groups
Mission Trips
Ladies'/Men's Bible Studies
Discipleship Groups / Retreats
Men's Breakfast-Workday
Vacation Bible School
Family Ministry Center
Single Adults
Sunday School Socials
First Seekers - Outreach
Biblical Counseling
Tried & True - Sr. Adults
SOS - Sobriety Over Substances
GriefShare

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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