



FBC ALBA NEWS

Dr. Kelly Burton
pastor

Merry Christmas Church Family!

Welcome New Members: This month we welcome five more new members to FBCA: *Deanna Phillips, Linda Shamburger, Josh Yarbrow, and John Olsen*. Deanna, Linda, and Josh all moved their letters from Baptist Churches. John gave his life to Christ for the first time with understanding in November. I will baptize John in December. Please say hello to these newest members of the family.

I recently read that unless a new member or a guest makes at least *seven meaningful connections* in the first six months they will find another church. I am sure you will reach out to these sweet people and make them feel at home.

Missions Awareness: David Peterson and Felicia Reynolds are working diligently to make us aware of international missions. Please go by the Missions Breezeway located between the Office area and the Sunday School wing of the church. There is an iPad there for your enjoyment. God is at work all over the world. More to come soon in the Missions Breezeway.

Outreach Ministry Coordinator: I am pleased to announce that *Angel Wallace* is our new Outreach Ministry Coordinator. Angel is full of outreach ideas that will fulfill our church vision that God gave me thirteen years ago: *Reaching Out-Growing Together*. Angel has a big heart for the spiritually lost people in our community. She will clearly communicate all our outreach efforts so that everyone can participate.

As a result, Angel graciously gave up the *Women’s Ministry Coordinator* role. I am praying about who can fill those shoes. Every church needs a Men’s and Women’s Ministry Coordinator. My reasoning is that men and women need discipleship. When we are engaged in ministry at church we grow spiritually. When men and women are discipled in the church they will disciple at home. If you are interested in helping me in this area, please let me know.

Blessed Struggle: “But Jacob said, ‘I will not let you go unless you bless me.’” That came from Genesis 32:26 and the account of Jacob’s wrestling with “a man.” Jonathan Edwards wrote a sermon from this text. Edwards sheds some wise insights from that verse. Have you been wrestling with God over a prayer request? Does He seem silent and distant? Edwards remarks that this is precisely what God is trying to do. He is silent and seemingly distant from you because He wants you to persevere in your request. It’s sort of a test of your perseverance. Don’t quit! Keep wrestling for the answer. He is not distant. God may be silent, but it is for your good and His glory. When the answer comes you can be sure you will hear it and be blessed by it. William Cowper wrote about how you may feel when God is silent, “*God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform. He plants His footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm. Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take, The clouds ye so much dread, are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.*” Don’t quit. Persevere to the end. God never does anything without a glorious purpose for His children.

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

December Birthdays

Amy Hayes-Weissert	9	Jim May	21
Doug Hill	10	Toni Pollard	21
Amie Dailey	11	Angel Wallace	23
Tom Evans	12	Missy Kruger	24
Quindee Tidwell	13	Jason Spangenberg	25
Joe Spaits	15	Paul McCowan	27
Shelia Hill	18	Stacy Lennon	28

FBCA Family,

2024 has flown by! I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving with your families. Stephanie and I want to thank everyone for the prayers, food, texts, phone calls, and for you checking on us during our time as new parents. What a joy it is to serve in the best church in Alba!

The youth are getting ready for our Christmas party in the FLC from 4-7pm on December 7th. We are dismissing at 7pm for anyone wanting to go to the parade in Alba. The youth have elected to play white elephant and I will have some other games for them. Mike Murrie, youth pastor at FBC Garland, will be bringing the message to the students. We hope to have a worthy turnout and I encourage you to be praying for them. December 11th, the youth will be joining the RA/GA’s on a trip to the nursing homes. We will be joining the church for Christmas on the square on the 18th.

As of November 24, we have begun a new study in the book of Exodus in youth Sunday School. We just finished up studying the story of Joseph. What a story of trusting in God’s redemptive plan for our lives. He can be trusted! He is good to us. I hope you know Jesus as your personal savior! If you do not, please come see one of us. Knowing Christ is the greatest decision you will ever make.

As the year winds down, my prayer is for you to lead your families in remembering why we celebrate Christmas in the first place. Jesus came to this earth and lived a perfect 33 years. Died on a cross to pay the penalty for our sins. Rose again on the 3rd day, defeating death. He did this with you in mind! Trust Him today!

Merry Christmas,

Brennan, Stephanie, and Mason Margos

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Wednesday Night Family Meals 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.	5 Ladies Community Bible Study 6:30-8:00 p.m. in FLC	6 GA Lock-in	7 Youth Christmas Party 4-7pm
8 Deacon's Meeting	9	10	11 Wednesday Night Family Meals 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Visit to Nursing Home GA's, RA's and Youth	12 Ladies Community Bible Study 6:30-8:00 p.m. in FLC	13	14 Ladies Brunch and Cookie Exchange 11:00 a.m.. @ FLC
15 Lottie Moon Luncheon 12L00 p.m. in FLC	16	17	18 Candlelight Service on the Square 6:00 p.m.	19 Ladies Community Bible Study 6:30-8:00 p.m. in FLC	20	21 Men's Breakfast 8:00 a.m.
22	23	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Ladies Community Bible Study 6:30-8:00 p.m. in FLC	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	1 Office Closed			

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

WEDNESDAY
 5:00pm-5:45pm - MEAL TIME
 5:30-6:00pm - OPEN GYM
 6:00pm-7:00pm
 MISSION FRIENDS
 RAs - ROYAL AMBASSADORS
 GAs - GIRLS IN ACTION
 FBC ABLAZE - Youth
 PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY
 (Sanctuary)


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
 SOS - Sobriety Over Substances
 GreifShare

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