

First Baptist Church

Kountze, Texas

Second Quarter, 2024

The Pastor's Pen

By Br. Daniel White

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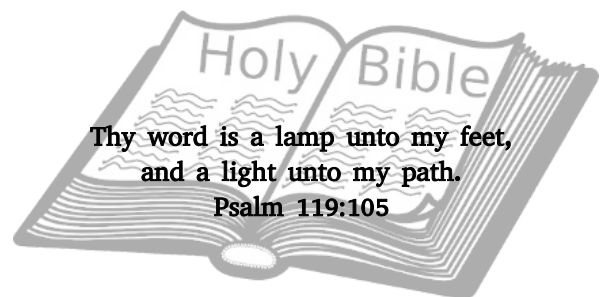
Information.....pg 18

We are excited about several new families that have been visiting regularly and about new members joining. Of course, we all want to see fuller pews. I recently had the privilege of being invited to a prayer meeting with pastors and lay-leaders from our local area. We prayed for our churches, and we prayed for our communities. All around the table, every man expressed discouragement over a general diminishing interest by Christians to faithfully attend church services. In our group, there was an 85-year-old retired pastor, named Clifford. He had this to share with us:

"There is only one way to grow a church. You can spend all the money you can get ahold of and try every program on the market, but that won't grow a church. Somehow, some way, you have to get your members into the homes of people in the community...in people's homes is where ministry happens. Get the Deacons on the Family Ministry Plan, and let the Deacons' meetings be a time of reporting about ministry and praying for families. Get a large map of your community that shows the homes, and have the members place a map pin when a home is visited."

These are all great ideas, and I look forward to our next Deacons' meeting and Missions Committee meeting so we can begin to work on these areas.

While numeric growth is great and something that we should strive for, especially by way of salvations and baptisms, even more wonderful is spiritual growth. Of course, spiritual growth is harder to gauge and quantify and, therefore, may go unobserved by many. However, I am observing and watching spiritual growth in our church family, and it is encouraging. The depth of intercessory prayer, the dedication to studying God's word, the determination to be more like Christ and put away worldliness, and the desire to share the gospel with others all indicate spiritual growth. It is exciting to be a part of our church during this season of spiritual growth. Thank you, Church, for strengthening your walk with the Lord.





Passover Seder



By Br. Daniel White

This year, on April 21, we were blessed to have Br. Michael Solomon, a saved Jew, present “Christ in the Passover,” as we partook of the traditional Passover meal celebrated by the Jewish Community across the world. For thousands of years, since Moses brought the nation of Israel out of Egypt, Jews have observed Passover without fail. Every year the elements are set, and the entire observance points them to the Messiah, the Christ, but they fail to understand the true meaning. Michael brought a unique perspective to the observance as he related his own family’s experience as unsaved Jewish people who honored the observance in form, but did not understand the significance. After Michael’s conversion to faith in Jesus, he understood the significance of Christ in the Passover, and now he celebrates the true meaning.

Passover is the feast that Jesus greatly desired to observe with his disciples before his arrest and crucifixion. As John preached, Jesus is the Lamb of God that came to take away the sin of the people. Jesus is the Passover Lamb. It is the Passover meal that Jesus observed with his disciples the night before his execution (not a tiny piece of cracker and a tiny cup of grape juice, but I digress). The main point is that the arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ are directly tied to the Jewish Feast of Passover, and not the Roman Catholic tradition of Easter. To this day, millions of Jews across the earth observe what they know not. Pray for them, that their eyes will be opened to see and their hearts will be opened to understand, that Jesus of Nazareth is their Messiah, their Passover Lamb, that shed his blood for their sins. Pray that they would believe on Jesus, repent before God, and receive forgiveness of sin.



Michael Solomon



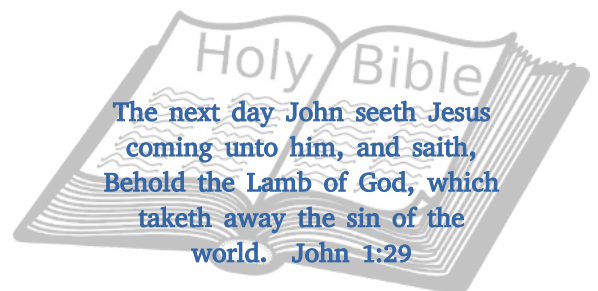
Seder plate



Angela Solomon lighting the candles

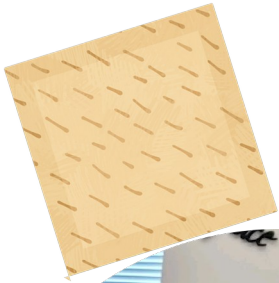


Br. Daniel & D'Ann White





Passover Seder



Amos & Shon Hamm



Ethan & Eleazer Barnett



Mark Chadwick



Brenda George



Br. Daniel performing the Handwashing Ceremony



Leonard Covington

Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Nursing Home Ministry

By Michelle Chadwick

Choosing Hope

Summer has arrived and Paradigm in Kountze is refreshing its facility. We can already see glimpses of their vision and are encouraged in the midst of the remodeling chaos. Yet, as you may imagine, remodeling presents challenges. Daily routines are impacted. For their safety, they have endured limited access within the facility and, at times, confinement to their rooms. They've experienced three evacuations to the parking lot due to several small fires caused by things like blown transformers. Through it all, hope in the finished product can encourage workers and residents alike to persevere.

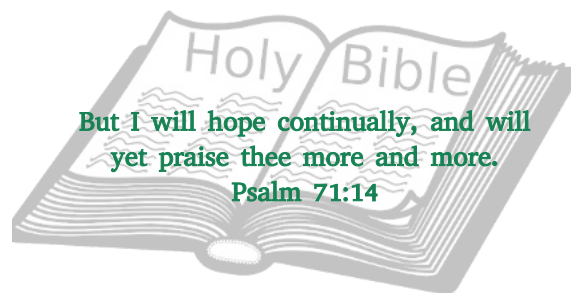
There has been a bit of a challenge to our Bible study, as well. We had six weeks where we didn't meet due to construction and some small fires, etc. Thankfully, nine of us were able to meet together the first Sunday in June to fellowship and study God's word. One of the nine had recommitted her life to Jesus the week before remodeling began, and there she was eager to meet again and hear whatever God had for her, despite the long wait for the Bible study to resume. What an absolute joy to see such sincerity and determination! Hope for more seeds planted, more seeds watered, and more souls harvested encourages me to press on.



Six years ago, Focus on the Family reported that 60% of nursing home residents do not have regular visitors. I'm not sure what that statistic is now, but I know what type of visitor our residents need. They need a visitor willing to spend a little time with them, get to know them, and encourage them in Jesus. My prayer and my hope is for God to send some of His people to this small nursing home to bless and be blessed by the visit's recipient.

Hope is vital. It can push us to hold on regardless of what we see before us. Hope is not a feeling. Hope is a choice. I choose hope in God for His help in this nursing home. So, should anyone reading this find a desire in their heart to be God's blessing to those in need at this local nursing home, please come see me. I would love to help you get started.

I want to also thank each of you who pray for these precious people living at Paradigm. Your prayers are so very precious and very much appreciated.



Springtime on the Square

By Suzanne Odom



Juanita Fox, Betty Teel, & Juanita's twin, Anita

On April 20th, we participated in the “Springtime on the Square” event hosted by the Kountze Chamber of Commerce. Our booth was manned by several church members, where we passed out tracts, church info, prayed with people, and connected with the community. These events are a way for us to reach out to the community, and we could always use more volunteers. Thanks to Betty Teel, Gary Freeman, Ethan Barnett, Michelle Chadwick, Suzanne & James Odom, and everyone else that worked the booth this year.



Suzanne Odom



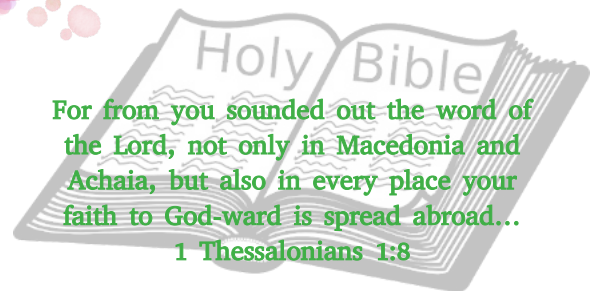
Gary Freeman, & James Odom



Ethan Barnett



Ethan Barnett, Michelle Chadwick, & Gary Freeman



For from you sounded out the word of the Lord, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad...
1 Thessalonians 1:8

Warrior Women

The ladies have taken a bit of a break this past quarter, but will be going strong for the rest of the year. They have a full line-up of activities, beginning in July.

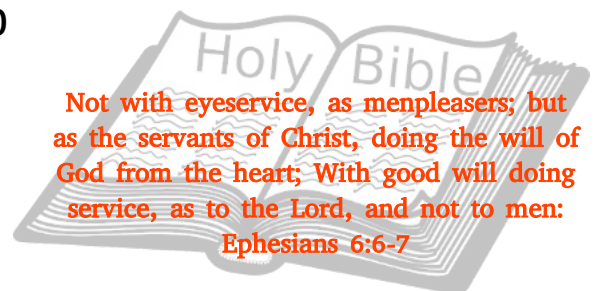
- On July 18, from 10 am-1 pm, they will be touring the Ice House Museum in Silsbee, and then go to lunch together.
- On August 21, from 11 am-1pm, they will be putting together “Recovery Backpacks” for Harvest House. These bags will be filled with items their guests need when they arrive. The goal is to complete 15 backpacks. Items needed:
 - Blanket
 - Bath Towel & Washcloth
 - Stuffed Animal / Pillow
 - Shampoo, Conditioner, & Body Wash
 - Sanitary Items
 - Fuzzy Socks
 - Hairbrush & Headbands / Hairbands
 - Toothbrush, Toothpaste & Dental Floss
 - Chapstick
 - Tissues
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Deodorant
 - Adult Coloring Book & Gel Pens / Colored Pencils
 - Fidget Item
 - Devotional Book
 - Backpacks



Note: We have already received some items. The items in red are items that are still lacking for our goal.

- On September 23, from 10 am-12:30 pm, they will be putting together clothesline kits, fishing kits, and sewing kits for Operation Christmas Child.
- On October 18, from 10 am-2pm, they will be hosting a baby shower for the Hope Resource Center. The Center gives away items for children up to 2 years of age, as well as gently used clothes.
- On December 3, from 11 am until finished, they will be delivering soup, cornbread & desserts to the shut-ins.

It looks to be a great time of fellowship and ministry, so plan to attend as many of these events as you can!



Sassy Seniors

By Betty Teel

On May 30, Armor Academy students painted rocks with the Sassy Seniors to hide in the Kountze area. Afterwards, we had lunch and the Awards presentation. We all had a great time.

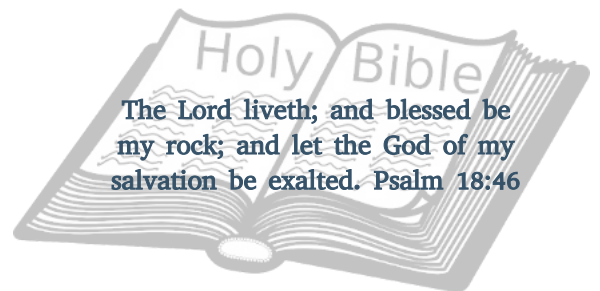
Betty Teel



Beverly Williford & Rosie Flower preparing the food



Sassy Seniors





armor academy

Ephesians 6:11



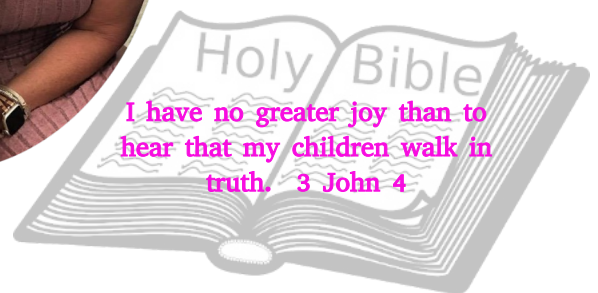
By Rhonda Barner

The last day of school we had a game day and a special project with the Sassy Seniors. The students participated in rock painting with the seniors. They had a great time.

Parents and Sassy Seniors joined the students for lunch at 11:30. We had hot dogs and Frito pies with all the fixings, chips, and desserts. We had our awards program early due to questionable incoming weather, so after lunch we went to the sanctuary and had the awards at 1:00. We presented 17 different awards such as All A's, A's & B's, Perfect Attendance, Missed One Day, Most Paces per Class, Kindness Award, Pastor's Award, Scriptural Memorization, Spirit of Encouragement, Pursuit of Spiritual and Academic Excellence, and others that were personal awards from the student's teacher.

We are immensely proud of our students and parents. We would like to thank our parents for their support, our staff for all their hard work, the School Board for always supporting us, and First Baptist Church for all they do. A special thank you goes to Pastor Daniel White for his amazing Wednesday Chapel lessons, and Ethan Barnett and Timothy White for all their help with setting things up for our programs this year!

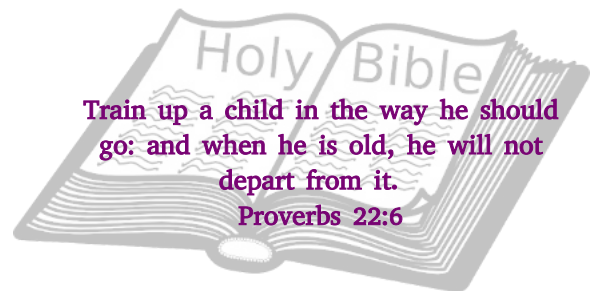
We pray for everyone to have a safe, fun summer. We look forward to a great year next year!





Armor Academy

Ephesians 6:11

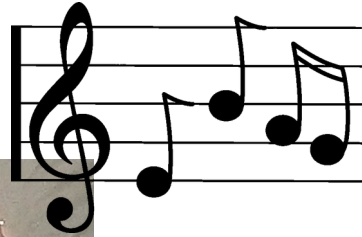


Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6

Praise & Worship



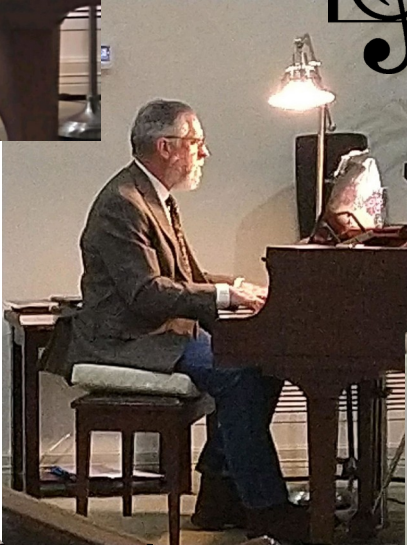
If you would like to sing along with us, please let Ethan know.



Ginger Brown



René Freeman & Steve Clark are doing a fabulous job serving as our pianists.



Tommie & Brenda George



Amos Hamm, future pianist



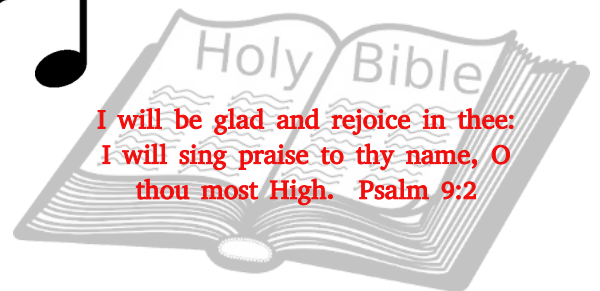
Susanna & Shon Hamm



White Family Singers singing a special (the family has grown a bit)



Beverly McKee & Timothy White



I will be glad and rejoice in thee:
I will sing praise to thy name, O
thou most High. Psalm 9:2

Mother's Day

May 12, 2024



Aaron Barnett helping his daughter, Zapporah, hold a rose to give to the mothers.



Br. Daniel recognizing the mothers.

Gary Freeman giving Amelia & Sterling Barnett roses to hand to the mothers.



Sharon Clark with daughter, Debbie

Baby Jesse visiting with grandmother, Sharon Clark. Jesse was born on Betty Teel's and Evonne Gates' birthday.



Mothers receiving their roses.



The children got to present the roses to the mothers.



Honour thy father and thy mother:
that thy days may be long upon
the land which the Lord thy God
giveth thee. Exodus 20:12

In Memory



Maudine Burrows went home to be with the Lord on January 13, 2024.

*But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
1 Thessalonians 4:13-14*



Robbie Barnett went home to be with the Lord on June 5, 2024.
September 1, 2000- June 5, 2024

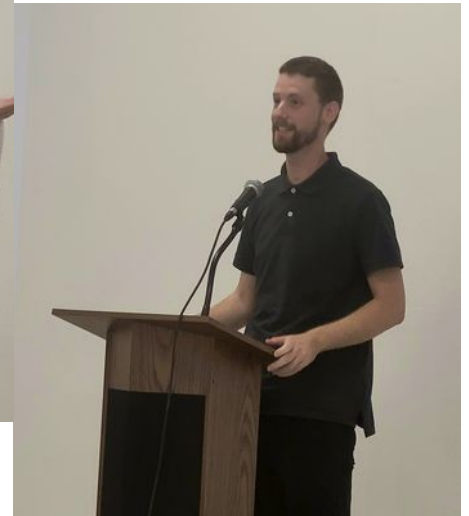
Several members spoke at Robbie's Memorial service.
Taylor Burke gave the Message of Comfort.



Taylor Burke



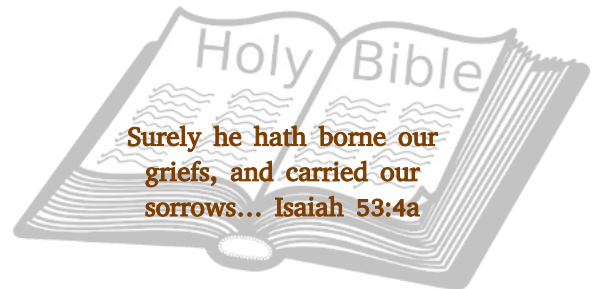
Suzanne Odom



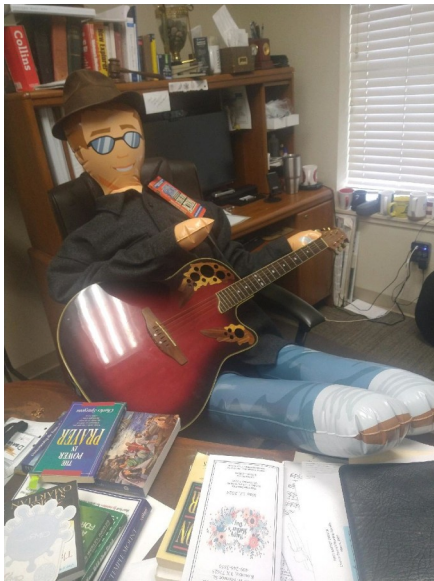
Ethan Barnett



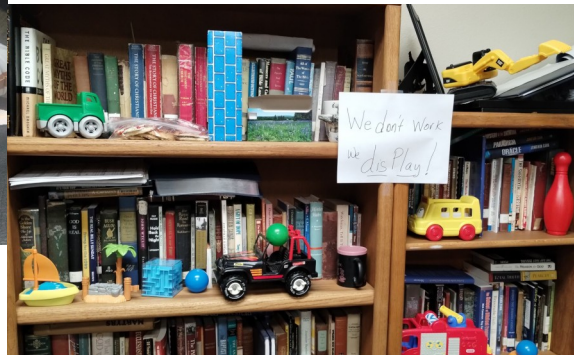
Aaron Barnett



TOMFOOLERY



The "Masters of Mischief," as some have dubbed the pranksters, has struck again. Br. Daniel returned from a Disaster Relief trip to find his office had been occupied by another. Another time, he returned and found his office overrun with toys... and not from the grandkids!



We're all precious
in the sight of the Lord...



This was a card that was given to Br. Daniel. It has a great message, but the cover is a bit scary, if you ask me!

REFLECTIONS

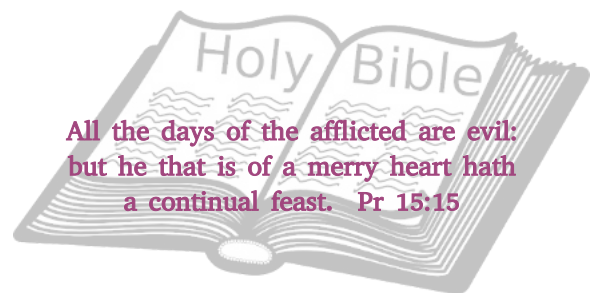
"Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God." ---Unknown



Youth



First Baptist Church of Kountze ladies attended a Tea Party with the ladies at Cornerstone Baptist.



All the days of the afflicted are evil;
but he that is of a merry heart hath
a continual feast. Pr 15:15

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By D'Ann White

Vacation Bible School was held on June 24-28, 2024, directed by Tommie & Brenda George. We had a smaller turn-out this year, but it was a great group of kids. This was the first time most of them had attended a VBS at First Baptist, so it was a great opportunity to reach new families. A huge thank you to all the workers that helped make this amazing week possible!

The theme this year was WildLive! from Regular Baptist Press. The kids got to take a trip to various Eco-systems and learn about the different animals there, and how those animals represented a different trait of Christ's character.



Songs led by Jóan Araujo, Suzanne Odom, & Aaron Barnett



Joanna White teaching 2nd-3rd grade class, co-taught by René Freeman



4th-6th grade class led by Aaron Barnett & Randy Beehn



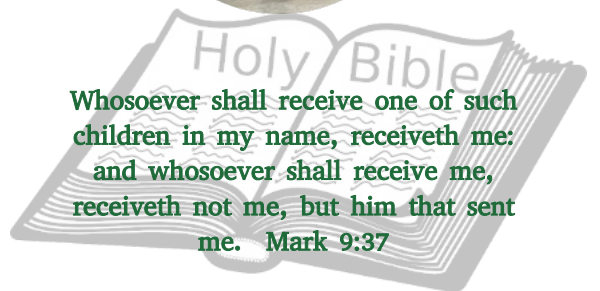
Amanda Bones teaching Crafts



Henry Willis playing Dodgeball with the kids

Beverly McKee working Crafts

Br. Daniel & Slowpoke (the sloth) visiting the kids



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Alyssa Jones playing games with kids

Directors Tommie & Brenda George



Gary Freeman, working security with his grandson



Pledges

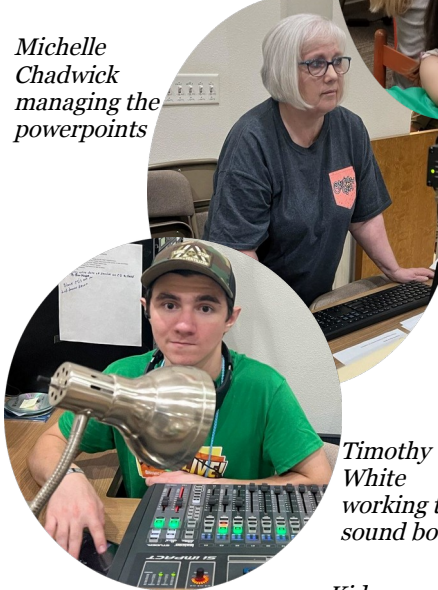


Michelle Chadwick managing the powerpoints



Joan Valentine with Kinder-1st grade class

Catherine Brandenburg teaching Kinder-1st grade



Timothy White working the sound booth



Cynda Willis, Betty Teel, & Mae Digmon working registration

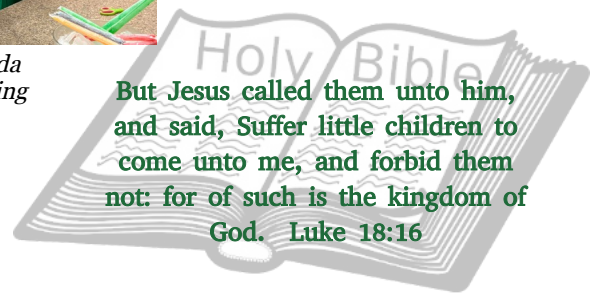


Children at Guessing Game station



Tom & Linda Settle working Snacks

Kids weaving in Crafts



But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Luke 18:16

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By D'Ann White

The daily skits featured "Pixel"---played by Br. Daniel--- who was a whimsical animal videographer, that traveled to different eco-regions to video the various animals of the region, often experiencing some calamity in the process.



Day 1--- Pixel was in South America, looking for the "elusive" llama, trying to blend in with "llama" wool



Santos the beaver likes to be clean, representing Christ's holiness



Clover the llama shows love to others, exemplifying Christ's love for us.



Day 2--- Pixel was looking for the North American Beaver, carrying branches for them



Pixel at the parent event, wearing/ carrying one item from each day



Tux the penguin faithfully keeps his egg warm until it hatches, reminding us of Christ's faithfulness to provide our salvation

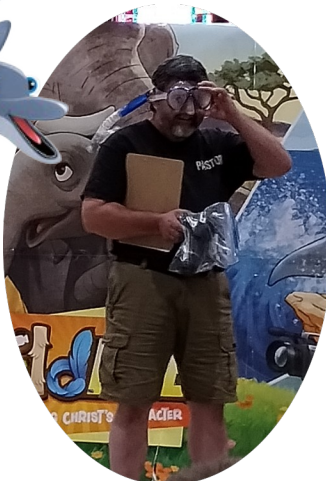
Day 5--- Pixel was looking for the Antarctic Penguins. However, a penguin stole one of his gloves!



Day 4--- Pixel was looking for the African elephant, carrying Circus Peanuts!

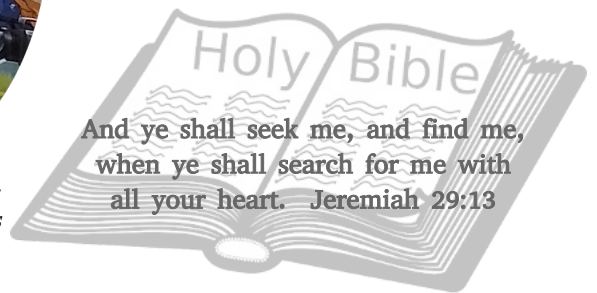


Carrie the dolphin reminds us of Jesus' compassion for others



Day 3--- Pixel was looking for the dolphin, unfortunately his camera fogged up and he didn't get any videos

Ellie the elephant shows humility by caring for the other animals, reminding us of Christ's humility



And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Upcoming Events

July

- July 10--- Church Council Meeting
- July 11--- Sassy Seniors
- July 17--- Business Meeting
- July 18--- Warrior Women Ice House Museum tour
- July 22--- LifeShare Blood Drive
- July 25--- Sassy Seniors
- July 27--- Equip Conference

August

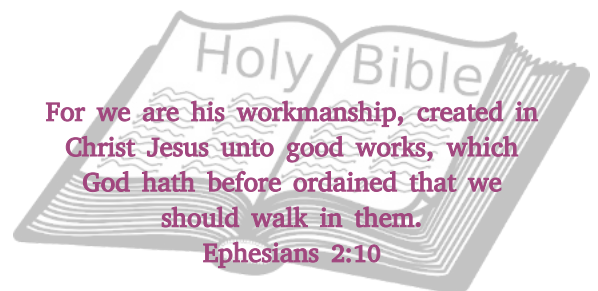
- August 1--- Sassy Seniors
- August 4--- Family Splash Day & Picnic
- August 8--- Sassy Seniors
- August 11--- Lord's Supper
- August 14--- Church Council
- August 15--- Sassy Seniors
- August 21--- Warrior Women Harvest House Backpack project
Business Meeting
- August 22--- Sassy Seniors
- August 29--- Sassy Seniors

September

- September 5--- Sassy Seniors
- September 11--- Church Council
- September 12--- Sassy Seniors
- September 18--- Business Meeting
- September 19--- Sassy Seniors
- September 23--- Warrior Women OCC project day
- September 26--- Sassy Seniors

"Jerusalem" Mission Projects

- We will be collecting emergency blankets, rain ponchos, and toiletry items to help our local homeless.
- We will be providing Care Baskets (along with gospel tracts) to each of the public school campuses to show our appreciation for their hard work.
- We now have a few bags of "Ready to Eat" items, along with a tract & John/Romans available for the homeless when they are looking for food and the CCLC is closed.



INFORMATION

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL

<https://www.fbckountze.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistKountze>

*****Both services on Sunday are Live-streamed on Facebook**

info@fbckountze.com (Email for general information)

pray@fbckountze.com (Email prayer requests)

Officers

Pastor

Daniel White

Administrative Assistant

Suzanne Odom

Treasurer

Steve Clark

Trustees

Tom Settle

Betty Teel

Rhonda Barner

Mark Finkenbiner

Committee Chairmen

Property Management

Randy Beehn

Budget & Finance

Steve Clark

Missions

Personnel

Tom Settle

Member Care

Daniel White

Nominating

Article Submissions Due: September 1, 2024

Email me any pictures or articles you would like to see in our next quarterly newsletter! My email address is danielwhitefamily@gmail.com.

-Dawn

DEACONS



Randy Beehn, Aaron Barnett, Richard Warden,
& Gary Freeman (chairman)

If anyone has a need or knows of someone with a need, please contact one of these gentlemen, or leave a message in the church office for them.

Service Times:

Sunday

- Sunday School.....9:45 am
- Morning Service.....11:00 am
- Ladies' Discipleship.....4:30 pm
- Bible Study.....6:00 pm

Wednesday

- Discipleship Class.....10:00 am
- Ladies' Discipleship.....4:30 pm
- Prayer Service.....6:30 pm

First Baptist Church

100 West Monroe Street

Kountze, Texas 77625

409-246-3850

And he [Christ] is the head of the
body, the church: who is the
beginning, the firstborn from the
dead; that in all things he might
have the preeminence.

Col 1:18