

First Baptist Church

Kountze, Texas

Fourth Quarter, 2024

The Pastor's Pen

By Br. Daniel White

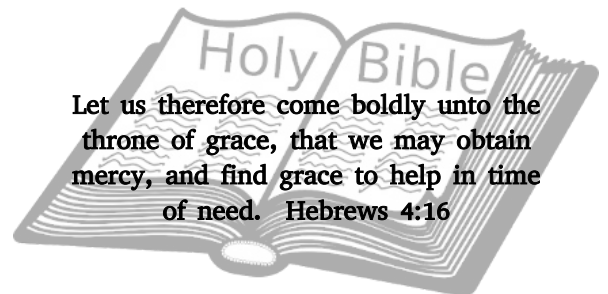
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This past quarter was busy, filled with many ministry opportunities, including Operation Christmas Child, caroling, nursing home ministry, and annual meetings for both the SBTC and SNBA. We've been blessed by visitors who have been faithfully attending and members returning. We studied through Thom Rainer's book, "I Am A Church Member" on Sunday nights. During our Wednesday Night Prayer Services, we have been praying--believing-- for very focused prayers. Specifically, we are praying for:

1. The unsaved in our community to repent, be saved, and for relationships to be restored.
2. Twelve new students for Armor Academy.
3. Families (with children) willing to work, and not just looking for programs.
4. Teachers, Nursery workers, Men & Women's ministry directors.
5. Spiritual protection for members.

God has already begun answering our prayers, and we have great opportunities coming up in this next quarter to minister and serve. I will be leading mission teams into our community and beyond as we pray with people and minister the gospel. We are hosting a Prayer Seminar for area pastors and also the mid-year report and leadership conference for the SNBA. Great work is upon us, and we need everybody's help to accomplish it all; please come and help. But MOST importantly, we need you to pray. Pray for our church. Pray for each other. Pray for our perception in the community to improve. Pray for people to be receptive to the gospel. Pray for God's house to be filled and for it to be a House of Prayer.



Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

Operation Christmas Child

By Beverly Williford

Thank you FBC church family for all of your participation in our OCC collections for 2024. We are so thankful for the 413 shoeboxes our church packed that will be sent to children around the world to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. FBC Kountze also served as a drop-off location again for shoeboxes during the 2024 National Collection Week November 18-25 and collected 1800 shoeboxes from area churches during that week. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped collect shoeboxes and pack them into cartons during National Collection Week. The Big Thicket Area collected a total of 7138 shoeboxes for 2024.

It's never too early to start collecting items for 2025 shoeboxes. So start today collecting appropriate shoebox items that you find on sale. There are usually suggested items listed in the church bulletin each month, which can be placed in the designated cubicles in the church foyer by the nursery. Monetary donations can be made monthly to the Operation Christmas Designated Fund to purchase items and help pay for the shipping costs of the shoeboxes. For more information about OCC, please contact Beverly Williford or Catherine Brandenburg.



Beverly McKee & Beverly Williford



Ben House & Beverly Williford



Adaline Johnson



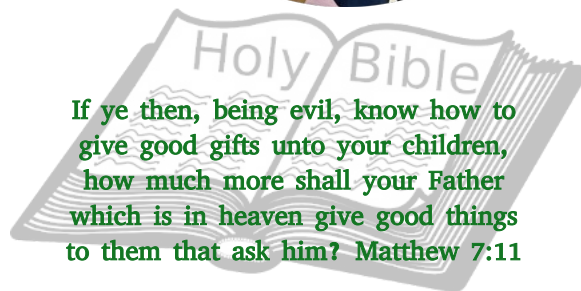
Timothy White & Brenda George



Theo Odom



Mark Chadwick



Nursing Home Ministry

By Michelle Chadwick

Holiday season is such a special time for each of us and for so many different reasons. As our families change over time, so do our holidays. In a nursing home setting, holiday joy is significantly changed.

This year our Bible study group studied the Christmas story from God's prophesy in Isaiah to His birth. Then, we talked about who Jesus is, what He did for us, and who He is to us. Our Christmas joy, this year, was in Jesus.

We hope you all had a joyful Thanksgiving and Christmas and that the joy of Jesus filled your heart.



Holy Bible
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Nursing Home Ministry

By D'Ann White

For Christmas, the church collected items and made up gift bags consisting of a bottle of lotion, a stuffed animal, and several snack cakes to give to each of the 58 nursing home residents. Those residents that are members of First Baptist also received a special gift bag of items collected just for them: cups, socks, etc. Additionally, the mission committee also made for each of the workers at the nursing home cocoa bags consisting of cocoa powder, chocolate chips, and marshmallows with a candy cane tied to them (about 65 bags).

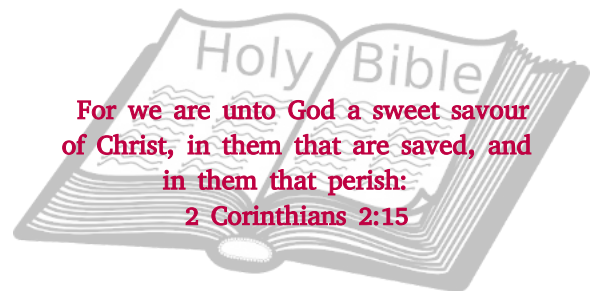


Betty Teel

D'Ann White & Beverly McKee



Cristi Beehn & Michelle Chadwick



Warrior Women

By Beverly McKee

Our Warrior Women all came together on December 3, 2024, and prepared a delicious meal consisting of soups, cornbread, and desserts for our home-bound members. Catherine Brandenburg sewed lovely tote bags for each recipient. We delivered the meals in these tote bags and included a lap blanket for each person. Br. Daniel White, Reggie Brandenburg, and Gary Freeman helped the women deliver the meals. Each person who received the meal was very appreciative. We were all blessed by our efforts as we prayed and visited with each one. We also wished them a Happy Holidays and a prosperous and healthy New Year.



Catherine & Reggie Brandenburg, Gary Freeman, Jean Massey, & Beverly McKee preparing to deliver meals.



Catherine Brandenburg, Betty Teel, Beverly McKee, & Jean Massey

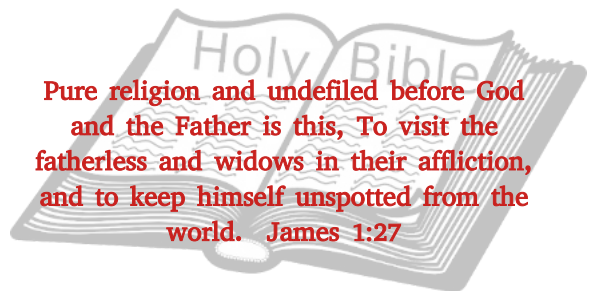


Doris Burnett, Kountze Nursing Home resident, receiving her care package.

PeeWee Hybarger, Kountze Nursing Home resident, receiving her meal package.



Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:27



Minister Appreciation

By D'Ann White

October was Minister Appreciation month, so during our annual OCC Packing Party, we recognized Pastor Daniel White, and our Worship Leader, Ethan Barnett. Also, recognized were our pianists, Steve Clark and René Freeman, who though they are not “ministers” still minister to us through music.



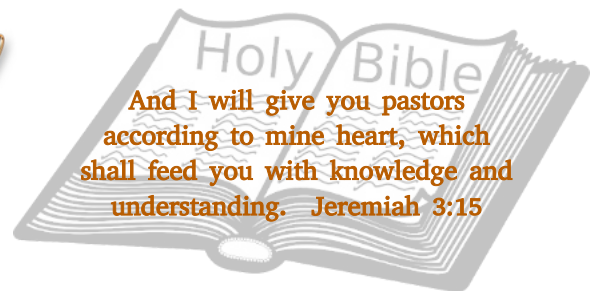
Br. Daniel White



Worship Leader, Ethan Barnett, just found out he had been given an entire case of Ramen



*Thanks
for all you do!*





Armor Academy

Ephesians 6:11

By René Freeman



In November, Armor Christian Academy had the privilege of honoring the veterans in our community. We are so grateful for their service to our country and the opportunity to share their personal experiences with our students. Thank you to Br. Taylor Burke for graciously speaking, sharing God's Word, and praying with us. We were blessed with a hearty breakfast, a nice crowd, and sweet fellowship.



For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Ephesians 6:12



armor academy

Ephesians 6:11

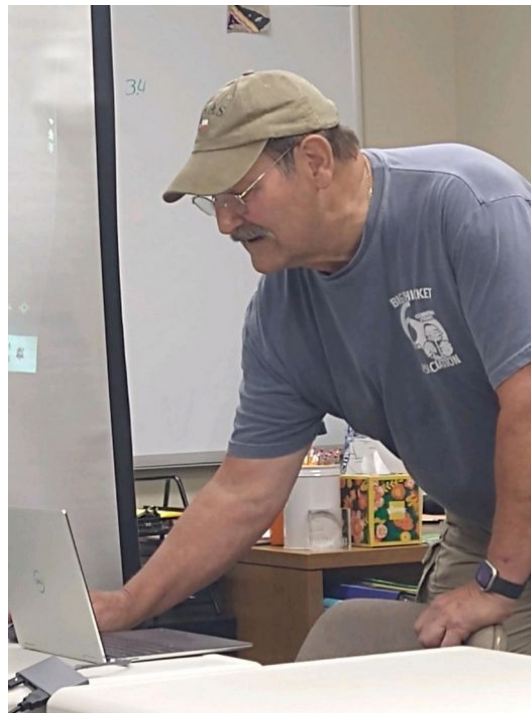


Armor Academy students with Catherine Brandenburg and Beverly Williford, OCC coordinators

Beverly Williford giving an OCC presentation



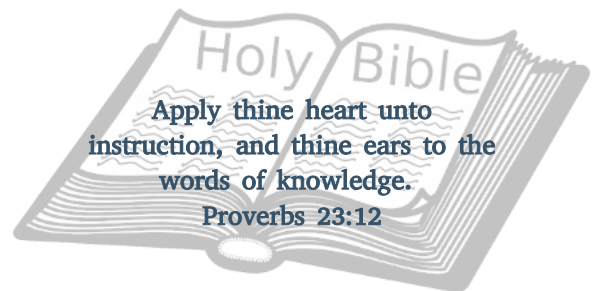
Randy Beehn giving a presentation on wildlife



Br. Daniel teaching on Curiosity in Chapel



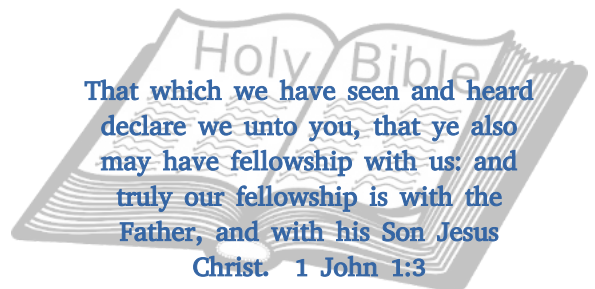
Br. Daniel teaching on Ecclesiastes 4:12, about the threefold cord



SNBA Annual Meeting

By D'Ann White

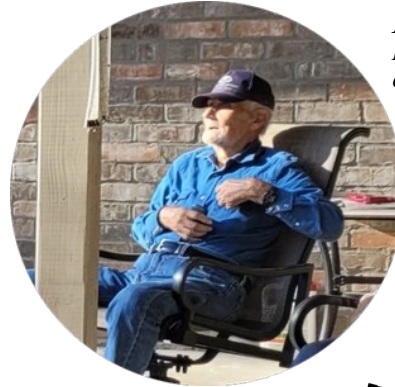
Several of us attended the Sabine-Neches Baptist Area Annual Meeting on October 20, at Pinecrest Baptist Church, to receive the annual report and also celebrate sixty years of the SNBA. The theme of the event was based on Colossians 3:13, "Bearing With One Another." We all enjoyed great food, great preaching, and uplifting music.



Praise & Worship

By D'Ann White

On December 22, a group from the church visited the shut-ins and sang Christmas carols to them. We visited 8 widows/widowers and also sang at the Kountze Nursing Center (Paradigm). We had a great turnout of participants, and it seems those we visited really enjoyed it.



Mackey McGaugh listening to the caroling.



The Barnett girls sing with Sarah Barnett during worship at church.

I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations. Psalm 57:7



In Memory



Wayne Williford

February 22, 1948 – October 14, 2024

Br. Wayne had a servant's heart and served in many capacities at First Baptist. He sang in the choir, taught a Men's Sunday School class for many years, taught children and youth at various times, and was Sunday School Director at one time. He taught the older kids in Vacation Bible School and was a faithful deacon. His lengthy prayers were so meaningful and one would welcome his intercession. He is greatly missed, but we celebrate his Homecoming with the Lord.



PeeWee Hybarger

March 27, 1925 – January 13, 2025

Small in stature, but mighty in spirit, PeeWee was well-known in the church and community for her love of God and her love for others. She was greatly known for her cooking, her smile, and her laugh that could lift anyone's spirits. She was a great prayer warrior and if anyone had a prayer need, they could count on her to pray for them. She will be greatly missed, but we also celebrate her Homecoming with the Lord, and her nearly 100 years on this earth.

Betty Teel and PeeWee



Mark & Michelle Chadwick surprised us with a visit from PeeWee on December 22, and she joined us for our Church Christmas dinner.

*...for I will turn their mourning into joy,
and will comfort them, and make them
rejoice from their sorrow.*

Jeremiah 31:13b



Beverly Williford's Sunday School Class Christmas Party



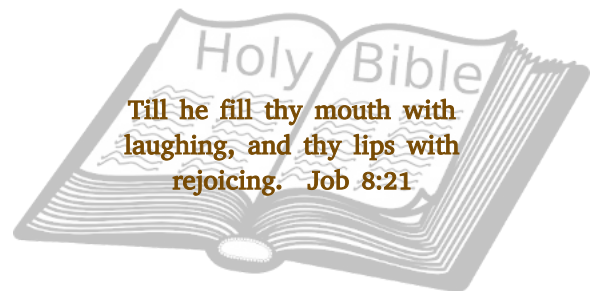
*Beverly Williford
& Joan Valentine*



Rhonda Barner



*Beverly McKee's cousin, Denise Spencer, &
Catherine Brandenburg*



Carolyn Graham's Sunday School Class



Carolyn Graham, with
granddaughter & daughter,
Molly

Evoynne Gates



Vesta Boone

Michelle Chadwick,
Judy Clark &
Linda Settle



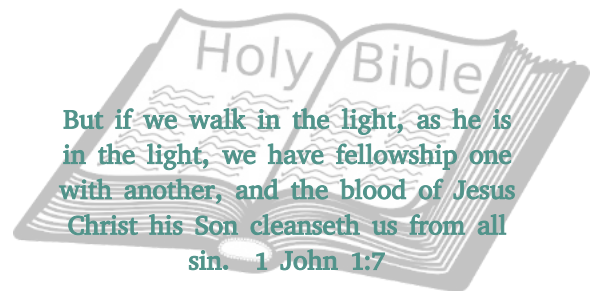
Jean Massey & Judy Clark



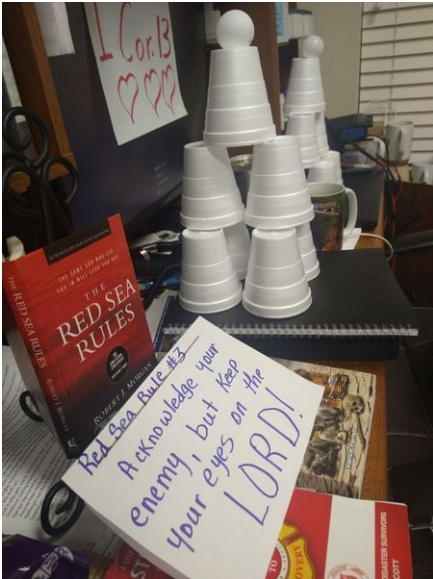
A couple of members attended the Hope Clinic Gala in November: Ty & Kyra Hall, Suzanne Odom, and Daniela Góes.



HOPE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CLINIC
gala 2024



TOMFOOLERY



The “Master of Mischief” struck again, and Br. Daniel opened his office door to find these cups strategically placed everywhere! He had to go around through the front door to enter his office. Not only were there cups everywhere, but on top of the cups were ping pong balls, and packing peanuts inside the cups on the floor.



Deacons' Report



Deacons coordinated some men to cut firewood: Gary Freeman, Henry Willis, & Randy Beehn

By Gary Freeman

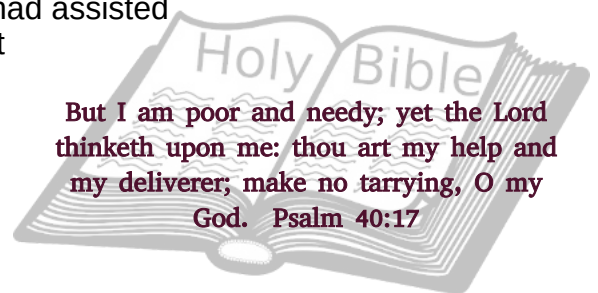
This quarter the deacons had:

- 2 requests for financial aid that they were working on
- Assisted a couple of church members, one of which needed a fallen tree cut up for winter.
- Checked on an elderly lady in the community that they had assisted in the past



Mark Finkenbiner & Gary Freeman

- Checked with S.C.A.T. to see how they could assist them
- Distributed firewood to members first and then the community
- Addressed an issue with a homeless individual camping out on the premises.



Upcoming Events & Announcements

February

- February 12--- Church Council Meeting
- February 16--- Lord's Supper
Business Meeting
- February 24-25--- Empower Conference, Irving, TX
- February 28-Mar 1--- Disaster Relief Training, Spring, TX
Inspire Ladies' Retreat, ETBE

March

- March 1--- Ghana Gala
- March 2-8--- NAMB week of prayer
- March 12--- Church Council Meeting
- March 16--- Business Meeting
- March 18-20--- Resilience Strategic Renewal Conference,
Georgia
- March 22--- Church Workday

April

- April 4-5--- Disaster Relief Training, Alvarado, TX
- April 8--- Reclaim Pastors' Seminar, 10am-2pm, hosted by
FBC Kountze
- April 9--- Church Council
- April 13--- Lord's Supper
Business Meeting
- April 20--- Resurrection Sunday
- April 26--- SNBA Mid-Year Leadership Conference, hosted
by FBC Kountze

We Need Your Help!

There are a number of service areas that could use some volunteers: Coffee Cafe, Nursery, Security. The more volunteers we have, the more time between rotations.

Sign up Sheet is on Nursery Counter.

February Mission Opportunity

Evangelize Coe Edition

- Feb 2-8--- Drive Thru Prayer
- Feb 9-15--- Prayer Walks
- Feb 16-22--- Door to Door
Evangelism & Prayer
- Feb 23-Mar 1--- Follow Up

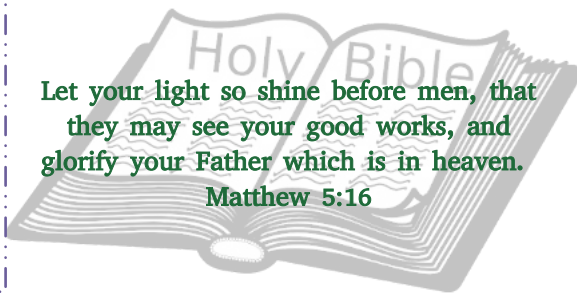
Sign up Sheet is on Nursery Counter.

Sassy Seniors meet every Thursday at 10 am.

If Needing Firewood, sign up sheet is on the nursery counter. There are two sizes available.

WE HAVE NEED FOR A FEW ITEMS OF CHILDREN'S CLOTHING IN VARIOUS SIZES. PLEASE SEE D'ANN, IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH THIS PROJECT.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
Matthew 5:16





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: March 15, 2025

Email me any pictures or articles you would like to see in our next quarterly newsletter!

-Dawn

What Does the Logo Represent?

- **The Crown** — represents Jesus Christ: our King and the rightful King of the whole world. – John 18:37 / Revelation 19:16
- **The Thorns** — represent His suffering to purchase us through His death on the cross. – Isaiah 53:5 / Ephesians 5:25 / Mark 15:17
- **The Candle** — represents our church: we are in Christ and connected to Jesus. – Revelation 1:20 / Romans 12:5 / John 15:5
- **The Flame** — represents the Light of the world: Jesus, while He was here, and us, in this present age. – John 8:12 / John 9:5 / Matthew 5:14-16
- **The Letters** — represent the name of Jesus: His first initial is I in Latin and Greek, and ' in Hebrew. So, our church is built up in Him. – John 19:19-20 / Colossians 2:6-7

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

*Logo designed by Ethan Barnett