



*For God so loved
the world that he
gave his one and
only Son....*

JOHN 3:16, NIV



March 2013
First Baptist Church
Newsletter

Volume 9

Issue 3



Easter morning, March 31
Around 7:00 a.m.
Zion Lutheran Church
Breakfast will be served afterwards



Join us at First Baptist on Easter morning for worship service beginning at 10:45 a.m. Terry's message, "The Walk", will be taken from Luke 24:1-35 with special Easter music being sung by the choir. The children will have a special treat during

Sunday School hour with an Easter egg hunt on the grounds of the church. Invite a friend, neighbor or family member to join you for a great morning of worshipping our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

March 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		MARCH			1	2
3 Baptism Service Today	4	5	6 Westview MINISTRY Midweek activities	7	8	9
10 Time to Spring Ahead	11 Spring break begins	12 Ruth Class Breakfast 8:30 a.m. @ Coffee Shop	13 Westview MINISTRY Midweek activities	14	15	16 Deacons Meeting
17 Noisy Sunday	18	19	20 Westview MINISTRY Midweek activities	21	22	23
24 VBS Meeting 3:00 p.m. Food on the Fourth	25	26	27 Westview MINISTRY Midweek activities	28	29	30
31 Easter Sunday	APRIL					

Connecting...Building...Transforming

FROM THE PASTOR
Terry Johnston

As the trees begin to bud, the flowers start to bloom, the allergies flare up, it is evident that spring is right around the corner. With each year's arrival of spring, our hearts should tune in to the message that Easter brings. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus of Nazareth, was crucified on a cross. Dead.

But on the first day of the week, as the women approached the tomb wondering how they would roll the stone away, they were astonished to see the great stone already rolled back. Inquisitive as to how this could be, and out of nowhere, the angelic messengers greeted with the news that the world needed to hear.

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!"
 --Luke 24:5-6a

Luke tells us that they remembered Jesus' own words concerning his death and resurrection, then went back and told the others.

Just as winter's cold dormancy gives way to spring's fresh vibrant life, we too must remember the resurrection. What is dead is revived to life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Won't you make a plan to join us for worship to rekindle the flames of the Holy Spirit this spring? Won't you commit yourselves to growing deeper in love with the resurrected Lord?

Won't you celebrate Easter, not just with us on March 31, but on every other day as well?

We should always seek to live lives full of resurrected grace, because of Christ Jesus.

March 12



8:30 a.m. @ The Coffee Shop

Church Garage Sale/Bake Sale
Saturday, May 18
To support VBS/Children's Ministry
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

When you start your spring cleaning this year, don't throw away those clothes you no longer wear or the dishes you no longer use. Please consider donating them to the church garage sale to be held the third Saturday in May. Any item that is not junky, broken, worn-out or dirty will be a great donation to put in the sale. Ask your friends, family and neighbors to also save items that can be used to sell.



In addition to sale items, we'll also have a bake sale with the kids manning a lemonade stand. We might even see if someone would run the popcorn machine so people can have something to munch on while they shop.



Please save your plastic and paper grocery bags, as well as boxes, that can be used by the shoppers at the sale.

This is a very big project that will take a lot of volunteers to make it successful. Please save the date on your calendar so you can come help make this fundraiser a success in support of our children's ministry.



March

James Cox-----	3/5
Johnny Tucker-----	3/7
Suzi Etheredge-----	3/10
Kevin Huffman-----	3/10
Lucy Nelson-----	3/11
Kamron Meyers-----	3/13
Frank Anderson-----	3/17
Dustin Shaeffer-----	3/18
Terry Johnston-----	3/20
Eunice Vick-----	3/23
Cheryl Tucker-----	3/30



January 2013

Contributions.....	7,779.86
Expenses.....	9,196.23
January Deficit.....	(1,416.37)



Sunday, March 24

3:00 p.m.

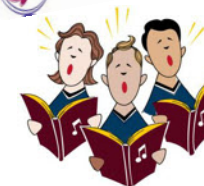
Fellowship Hall

Sunday
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:45 a.m.



Wednesday

Westview Manor 10:00 a.m.
 Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
 KidZone/JAM Time 6:30 p.m.
 Youth 180 6:30 p.m.



Choir Rehearsal
 Wednesday nights 7:30 p.m.
 in the worship center.
 Everyone is welcome to come and sing.

Please pray for our nursing home residents

Westview Manor

Ella Lee Ledbetter Ann Goolsby
 Vida Fehler Ruth Brandes
 Joy Erlanson Cohen Bass
 Frank Anderson

St Catherine's

Eunice Vick

VA Nursing Home

Vernie Farris

First Baptist Church
 700 W 6th Street
 McGregor, TX 76657

Phone: 254-840-3301
 Fax: 254-840-3421

Email: fbcmcgregor@centexbiz.rr.com
 Web: www.fbcmcgregor.org

It's time to order your Easter lilies. They are \$8.00 each; the deadline to order is March 20.

Children's Ministry



The KidZone and JAM Time classes had a great time at the Valentine's Party, "Learning to Love Like Jesus", on Wednesday, February 13. Codi King did a wonderful job organizing the event with crafts, snacks, and games. A devotional was led by Ellen Horn.

It's unbelievable that it's time to start thinking about and planning Vacation Bible School! Wow! The time has flown by since our last VBS in July. There will be a planning meeting on March 24 at 3:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the church. If you're interested in helping, please plan to attend this meeting.

Easter is upon us when we celebrate our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. He was the final sacrifice when he died on the cross for our sins. He shed his blood so we could be brought back into a relationship with God. Through His resurrection we, too, can be risen to new life in Him. We are new creations when we come to the Lord. At Easter time, it's ok to have fun at an Easter egg hunt and to enjoy chocolate bunnies and Easter baskets full of goodies, but let's not forget the real meaning of Easter.

Be assured that the teachers of both Wednesday classes work very hard to teach the children about the love of Jesus and what He has done for all of us. He loves us more than we could ever imagine!

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt during the Sunday School hour on Easter morning at church. All children's classes will be combined to have a fun time together hunting eggs right before the worship service. Please have your child bring their Easter basket when they come, and invite a friend or neighbor to come with them. It'll be a great time!



Winter is a very hard time for many of our children. This year there is an extremely long wait list for pajamas and books. Please consider donating a pair of new pajamas for a boy or girl and/or a child's storybook. Your donation will be given to the Pajama Program as they believe "EVERY child deserves a good night." There will be a box in the foyer of the church where you can leave your donation or you can bring it by the church office. Donations will be collected through March 3.



The Children's Ministry at First Baptist has several fun activities planned. On March 1 at 6:00 p.m., the kids will all enjoy a Tuck-in

Party where they can come dressed in their pajamas for a fun time of games, crafts, snacks and a devotional. Any child from the age of four through the sixth grade is welcome to come enjoy all the fun. Each child is asked to bring a pair of pajamas and/or a book to donate to the Pajama Program if interested in doing so.



Upcoming events

- March 31 - Easter egg hunt
- April 19 - Movie Night
- May 18 - Church garage/bake sale





The Sweet Exchange recipes from 2011 mysteriously appeared on the secretary's desk one Monday morning not long ago. Since a book wasn't compiled of those

recipes, they will be included on this page until all have been shared. It would also be fun if everyone would submit favorite family recipes to include on this page, as long as the recipe isn't an old family secret! If interested in sharing your goodies, please email the recipe to the church office at fbcmcgregor@centexbiz.rr.com.

Strawberry Balls

Gerri Allen

- 2 c coconut
- 1 can Eagle Brand milk
- 4 small boxes strawberry Jello
- 2 t vanilla
- 4 t red food coloring

Mix together; let set overnight.

Next day: form into small balls. Make a mixture of one cup sugar and one teaspoon red food coloring; blend well. Put mixture in a jar and add the balls. Put lid on the jar and shake very gently until the balls are covered with the sugar mixture.

Store in the fridge.

Christmas Toffee

Mitch Bennett

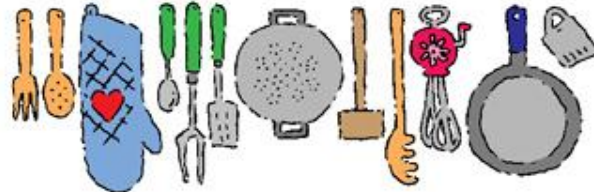
Line a cookie sheet (with sides) with foil. Spray with Pam. Cover cookie sheet with saltine crackers.

Boil:

One cup brown sugar and one cup (two sticks) of real butter. You must use "real" butter. You cannot use margarine. Boil and stir for three minutes. Pour mixture over crackers and spread evenly. Bake at 350° for 10-15 minutes.

Take out of oven and cover with two 12 oz bags of Hershey Milk Chocolate Chips (you must use Hershey..no other brand works well). Spread after five minutes when the chips have melted.

Cool to harden for several hours then cut into small squares. (Do not cool by putting in the refrigerator, as the chocolate will separate and fall off.)



Texas Millionaires

Codi King

- 1 12 oz pkg butterscotch chips
- 1 12 oz pkg chocolate chips
- 3 c pecans
- 1 oz paraffin

Melt all together. Stir and drop on wax paper.

Puppy Chow

Codi King

- 1 stick margarine
- 1 12 oz pkg chocolate chips
- 1 c peanut butter
- 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 box Chex rice cereal

Melt margarine, chocolate chips and peanut butter on stove in a large pan. Pour rice Chex into pan and mix together gently. Use a large grocery paper bag and pour

Paula Deen's Cake Balls

Mary Alder

- 1 pkg white cake mix
- 1 16 oz container prepared butter cream frosting
- 6 oz chocolate flavored confectioners coating disks or bar (available in white, dark or milk chocolate) or white almond bark
- Food coloring (optional)

Prepare the cake mix according to the directions on the box. When cake is finished baking, allow to cool for 30 minutes. Crumble the cake into a large bowl using a stand mixer or a hand mixer. Add the frosting and mix until well combined. Place the bowl in the refrigerator for at least 3 hours or overnight.

Line a baking tray with wax paper. Use a melon baller as a scooper to form balls with the cake mixture. Place on wax paper. Once you have used all of the cake mixture, place the baking tray in the freezer for one hour. Melt the chocolate in a glass bowl in the microwave, stirring every 5-10 seconds until smooth. At this point, you can add a bit of food coloring if you are using white chocolate.

Remove the balls from the freezer. Using one toothpick, pick up the balls one at a time and dip in the chocolate. Use a second toothpick to slide the ball off the first toothpick onto the wax paper lined baking tray.

NOTE: if the balls fall off the toothpick into the chocolate, they are not firm enough to work with and you'll need to place them back in the freezer for additional time.

Once you have covered all the balls in chocolate coating, place the tray in the refrigerator until the coating is set. At this point, you can drizzle other chocolate on the balls for decoration.

There are a number of cake/icing combinations that you can try. Have fun with this recipe!



PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE:

Eula McKown, from her Facebook page:

Just a note to let everyone know that I am doing okay. On Feb. 4th I had double knee-replacement surgery. After being in the hospital and rehab for 2 1/2 weeks, I am home. I am walking with a walker and doing better every day. I now have outpatient rehab for a while. I hope to be running around easily within the next few weeks.

Why both knees at once? I had back surgery in June, 2011. After that rehab, I thought I could take both knees at once. After all, why go through the torture twice? :)

Thank you to all who have been praying. I hope all is well with each of you.

Sallie Hurst is now in therapy at Westview Manor. Just when she began to feel better, she fell and broke her arm February 22. She has an orthopedist appointment soon. Westview's address is 414 Johnson Dr, McGregor, TX 76657. Sallie is in room 409.

Frank Anderson is doing better after having recovered from several falls and a bad cold.

Pat Johnston, **Terry Johnston's** mom, has a blood disorder, and her current medicine has stopped working. She may be hospitalized soon for bone marrow treatment.

Mitch Bennett's brother-in-law, Bob Arbizzani has stage four cancer in his spine and lungs. Tests showed cancer nodes in all lobes of his lungs. It's spreading all over. For the first time, the doctor said to think about if he wants to continue chemo after radiation on his pelvis. He had another steroid injection in his spine due to severe pain.

A. E. And Dorothy Drew are both having health issues. A. E. is now at Westview Manor, and Dorothy will be there for a while for therapy.

A TIME FOR PRAISE:

Ann Goolsby, one of our Westview Manor residents, is now the proud owner of an electric wheelchair.

Congratulations to **Viola Mize** on the birth of her sixth great grandchild, Ty Hudson! He entered the world February 27 weighing 9 lbs 1 oz and was 21" long.

Verna Arp's grandson, Daron Parker, is now a Texas Ranger (not the baseball kind). He'll be sworn in at a ceremony in Austin on March 5.



Congratulations to **Joel Horn** on his marriage February 16 to Brittany Reich. They were both thrilled over the shower gifts First Baptist sent to the wedding! Joel commented that he hopes all the gifts were properly tagged so they can write thank you notes. They are now at home in Felt, OK.

Many thanks to everyone who brought a gift for the happy couple!

Joel and Brittany are planning a trip to McGregor the first weekend in March and will be joining us at church as long as this crazy weather allows!

Leslee Hyde celebrated her fifth anniversary as FBC's church secretary on February 11.

Noah Lain "Bubba" King, son of Jason and Codi King, will be baptized Sunday, March 3, after he came forward at church on January 13. Welcome to the family of God, Bubba!

Troy Tucker began his new job as Maintenance Supervisor at Behlen Country on February 12. The company is located in the old Smead building on highway 84. We're all very happy for you, Troy, but sure will miss your excellent mechanic skills!

Following is a portion of the thank you note our church received from Ginger Ferguson, Church Relations Coordinator of The Heart of Texas Team regarding **Operation Christmas Child:**

"You may also be encouraged to know that, this year 15,892 shoe box gifts were collected in our Heart of Texas area alone! Worldwide over 9 million shoe box gifts were collected for 2012.....We can't say enough about the passion and dedication we have seen here in the Heart of Texas area, which included faithful prayers, gracious giving, passionate packing and tireless efforts of many.....We thank each and every one who made this shoe box season so memorable and amazing!"

Last year, First Baptist set a goal of packing 75 shoe boxes. With our Noisy Sunday collections and the packing party in November, we came just under our goal with 72 packed boxes. **Kathy McCulloch** did an excellent job overseeing the items throughout the year and organizing the packing party. You should have seen all the gorgeous scarves she crocheted to include in each box! She has very graciously agreed to be in charge again this year. Thank you, Kathy!

