

Connections January/February 2019



AWANA welcomes the new year with masks and photos.

Pastor Search Starts With an Interim

First Baptist Church of Castroville is at a time in its life that can be very productive.

We are between pastors. Many people are wondering when we will name a Pastor Search Committee. Some have been profoundly affected by the tragic loss of Katie Russell and the outpouring of love that has brought people closer to Jesus Christ and our church.

Leaders in the church have had discussions with representatives from the San Antonio Baptist Association and our state convention, and they have recommended that we consider a Transitional Interim Pastor. This is a pastor who will work with us on a part-time basis to help us determine what our mission is in our community and beyond. Should we make improvements in the way we operate? What qualities should we look for in our next pastor?

“The next stage could be better than anything in the past,” said SABA Executive Director Darrell Horn.

The Transitional Interim Pastor has been trained to provide consistent teaching and preaching during the interim period, to consult with the church to address matters of church health and how we function, and to assist in the search process to identify the right pastor for the next season of FBC-Castroville’s life. In our bylaws, the Deacons are charged with the responsibility of identifying men to preach each Sunday and with recommending an Interim Pastor to the church. That is why you are seeing a variety of men preaching as a way of providing an opportunity to hear them preach and talking with them about whether they would be a good fit for our church at this time. A Transitional Interim Pastor could serve for a year or more as we go through the process of seeking God’s direction.

“This is not a time of treading water or being in maintenance mode,” said Deacon Chairman Andy Carnes. “A Transitional Interim Pastor helps us identify who we are as a church and how we minister to the community. This process is (Continued on back page)

January/February

- **Feb 5 (Tue)** - Packing Homeless Kits, Education Center, 12pm
- **Feb 10 (Sun)** - Last day to pick up kitchenware before it is donated
- **Feb 11 (Mon)** - Homeless Distribution, meet at church, 8:45 am
- **Feb 13 (Wed)** - Business Meeting, Worship Center 7:30 pm
- **Feb 17 (Sun)** - Potluck Lunch / Youth Fundraiser Education Center after service—you will be able to check out items and services that are available to bid on during lunch—Charlie Carnes will be auctioneer.
- **Feb 20 (Wed)** - AWANA Grand Prix weigh-in during AWANA club
- **Feb 21 (Thu)** - Food Truck Distribution, 2pm (volunteers needed at 12 pm)
- **Feb 24 (Sun)** - AWANA Grand Prix Education Center, 3pm
- **Mar 3 (Sun)** - Children’s Sunday Service, Black Light Performance, Envelope Fundraiser

Regular Activities

The Gathering—Prayer Meeting—Sundays at 6:00 pm in the Education Center

Ladies Bible Studies—Tuesdays at 9:45 am and 7 pm in the Education Center

Flourish Bible Study—Junior High and High School aged young ladies—6:30 pm—locations vary, contact Emily Breiten 210-912-7955 for more information

Alpha Bible Study—Junior High and High School aged young men—Student Chapel, 6 pm

Men’s Morning Word—Thursdays at 7 am at Sammy’s Restaurant

Prime Timer’s Lunch—Senior Adults—2nd Thursday of the month—11:30 am at Bill Miller’s

In the Loop

- Snacks and drinks always needed and appreciated for AWANA club on Wednesday nights
- If you are not receiving our weekly e-mail from the church with updates and would like to, please contact the office. You can always opt out as well
- The youth are planning an outreach to an orphanage and appreciate donations of composition notebooks (no spirals), Rubik's Cubes, and other hand-held toys
- March 3 is Children's Sunday Service. Their Black Light Performance will take place. The envelope fundraiser will also take place that Sunday with envelopes marked \$1-\$100. Our goal is for all envelopes to be filled to fund children's ministry through October.

Children's Church in Need of Volunteers

There is a growing need for volunteers on Sundays during service in Children's Church. Please contact Debra McDonel if you would like to become a regular volunteer on a rotating basis, or if you would like to sign up as a backup.

Alto Frio Children's Camp Registration Starts Now!

Dates: June 17-20

Grades: 3rd through 6th (completed)

Theme: Under the Big Top with Camp Pastor Keith Smith and Worship Leader Tim Tibbles

Price: \$160 per camper

Includes: room, meals, and transportation

Contact: Debra McDonel 830-212-1703

If you would like your child to attend, please see our Children's Minister Debra McDonel for more details. Camp payment arrangements can be made at this time. If you are interested in sponsoring a child for camp, we would appreciate your sponsorship.

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(Continued from front)

a proven path that builds unity, heals hurt, promotes fellowship, and focuses on the mission of the church. God is still at work in our church and He has a plan to move us forward."

The Transitional Interim Pastor will develop an agreement with the church that sets a schedule of office hours and ministry times for the church. In the agreement, he will state that he will not be considered for the permanent position.

Please be in prayer as we seek God's will for our beloved church.



FBCC Puppet Ministry

Photo Credit: Debra McDonel

The Puppet Ministry is making regular presentations at Blue Skies, a senior living establishment located off Hwy 90 and Montgomery Road.

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This newsletter is the leadership's way to keep you in the loop. To submit items, send to Jessi Rushing at spydurpoet@gmail.com. Deadline is the Sunday after the monthly Business Meeting. It is sent via e-mail and it is available on the What's Happening tab of the church website. Printed copies are available in the Worship Center foyer.