



Cars line up every Wednesday for the food distribution. Volunteers to sort and distribute are needed.

Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Castroville

Pick up bags at church July 20-23

VBS is virtual this year

By Debra McDonel, Children's Minister

First Baptist Church of Castroville is offering a FREE virtual Vacation Bible School with a BOLT Towards Faith in Jesus theme from Monday-Wednesday, July 27-29.

Families can go to the FBCC VBS Facebook page to join the group.

Free bags – donated by Northeast Pediatric Associates-Medina Valley – can be picked up outside the double glass doors of the Fellowship Hall at the church Monday through Thursday. They are filled with craft supplies for each day, colors and a small toy. Supplies are limited to 300 bags, so first-come, first-served.

The days are planned with minimal preparation, easy-to-follow instructions and a video that leads a family step-by-step through each day.

BOLT is designed to bring the fun and faith-formation of VBS to your home. This VBS is designed for TODAY! It's so easy you could even have your own backyard VBS at home.

From the "Family Portal," families will have access to all of the documents and videos they need to perform BOLT at home. In order to get into the portal, families will need to enter a password, which is provided in the bags and on the FBCC VBS Facebook page.

In the take-home bags is a list of the songs that families can access from the Spotify playlist or on Youtube. The songs and videos will also be available in the Family Portal.

Those not on Facebook will have materials to follow in their bags.



Be Jesus' Hands & Feet

By Tina Santee, Missions Minister

We may not be meeting at church now, but there are still so many ways for us to be servants and reach out to our community.

We are continuing our food distribution as partners with Daily Bread Ministries on Wednesdays. We've done this since March, and some of our volunteers have taken a break so we need some "fresh" volunteers. We need folks to come from 9:30-11 a.m. to sort the food in the air-conditioned Student Chapel. Then we are rotating people to distribute the food outside from under canopies in the parking lot from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. PLEASE HELP if you can!

A company that is closing has donated new mattress sets. If you know someone who needs a queen or twin mattress with boxsprings, please let me know.

We're working on another blood drive.

We are handling benevolence requests as people need help with bills and unforeseen needs.

In this scorching heat, we are getting requests for fans. You can purchase box fans at Walmart for less than \$20. We usually provide 30-50 fans each summer, and we're seeing an uptick this year due to the excessive heat, so we'd appreciate your donations..

Worship Team Needs New Talent

By Stephanie Randles, Worship Leader

The Worship Team is looking for new talent! If you play piano or can sing harmonies, we want YOU! Please contact me at 515-975-1709 to schedule an audition.

Also, we really need help with running the slides for the Worship Service on Sunday mornings as a fill in. It would entail being at the church one evening a week from about 6-8 p.m. to practice, followed with the actual recording for Sunday. We would like you to be able to come for training to learn the system. So if you are somewhat tech-savvy (or willing to learn) and would like to give it a try, please contact Jo Ann Haywood in the office at 830-538-3220 or on her mobile at 210-639-0638 so we can set it up.

A QUARANTINE FRIENDLY VBS



Sunday Morning Worship.

We are not using Facebook Live to record the worship services, for now. It is being recorded during the week. Then it is posted on Facebook and on the church website at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.



Sunday School. Sunday School Directors Linda Roque and Glenda Strong are researching ways to help adult classes reconnect as we are apart.

They are considering doing a video series that could be followed by discussion via Zoom, which Sunday School class members could access on their computers or tablets. Please contact them with your ideas.



Newsletter. Due to the Pandemic and the lack of many in-person activities, this newsletter will be published as needed (like to make plans to meet a potential pastor) for the next few months.

If interested in being the new editor, please contact Communications Team Leader Ginger Carnes at gcarnes2@satx.rr.com.



The Worship Ministry is considering a way to make the background of the stage more attractive. If you've looked at other church's video services, there are lots of ideas there. If you would like to donate funds to help achieve this, please contact Stephanie Randles.

PSC is starting interviews

By Andy Carnes, Pastor Search Committee Chairman

The Pastor Search Committee has been diligently working and has narrowed down the candidate list to the final few potential pastors. We sent a questionnaire to and talked to references about each of our final candidates.

We are now planning to conduct initial interviews using Zoom. Once we decide on a final candidate, we plan to have an in-person interview. If all goes well, the candidate will be invited to come in view of a call.

An opportunity will be provided for the church to meet him and his family in person and to hear him preach. Then the church will be asked to vote on whether to extend the call for him to be our next Senior Pastor. Please continue to pray that the Pastor Search Committee will be discerning of God's direction in this process and for the man and his family that God is preparing to be our pastor.

\$ You can bring your tithes and offerings to the storehouse – in person or with technology \$

As FBCC and many churches have paused ALL in-person gatherings, we are behind on tithes and general fund revenue to meet our expenses.

We still are paying our employees, except those not working in the summer. In July we will have exhausted the 10 weeks of grant funds (\$68,412) we received from the government's Payment Protection Program (PPP). We also have deferred our loan on the Worship Center (\$15,800/month) for three months but must start paying the interest (\$8,428.90/month) in August. Salary expenses will increase when the new pastor arrives.

God has blessed us with regular tithers who have continued to give. We are unsure when this pandemic will allow us to meet in person again. We are grateful to God for his provi-

sion during this difficult time and to those who have made the effort to continue to give.

How can you continue or begin to give and still stay safe?

- Put it in an envelope and mail it.
- Bring it by the church, call the office, and someone will come to your vehicle.
- Set up online giving by clicking on the "Give Online" link at the top right of the website and creating a profile. Or scan the QR Code below with the QR Reader on your phone.



- Use your smart phone to Download the free Give+ Mobile app from the App Store or Google Play. Just search for Give Plus. Treasurer Jo Ann Haywood has added a link on our website to a video that gives you instructions. The amount you give will be debited from your bank account.

We are also looking into other ways to give, so watch your emails for info from the Finance Committee.

This newsletter is the leadership's way to keep you "in the loop." To submit items, send to Ginger Carnes at gcarnes2@satx.rr.com. Deadline is the Sunday after the monthly Business Meeting. It is sent via email and is available on the church website. Printed copies are available at the Welcome Center in the Worship Center foyer.

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