

September 8th

Fried Chicken
Rice and Gravy
Green Beans

Salad Dessert Carnitas

September 15th

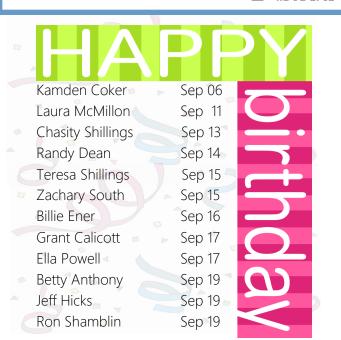
(pork/chicken tacos)
Salad
Rice Casserole
Sopapilla Cheesecake

\$5/person. \$2/child 12 & under. \$15 Family Maximum

To go plates are for shut ins only.

Please sign up by Tuesday at noon by calling the church office 409-384-2527, or fbcj@fbcjaspertx.com or using this QR code



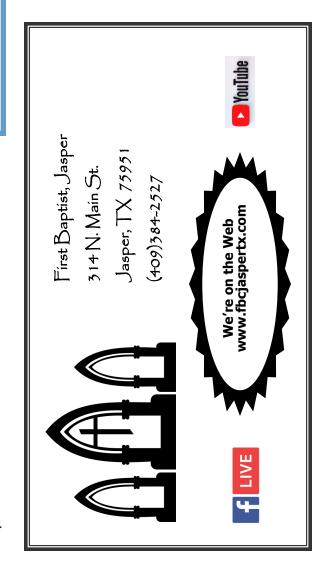


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Volume 18 Issue 17





September 2, 2021

A Training for Church Leaders

On Sunday afternoon, September 12, we will have a very special training time for church leaders.

- ⇒ **What is the point of this training time?** We will be learning how the ministry of each leader fits into the vision and strategy of our church.
- ⇒ **What is the Vision?** To see every life in Jasper transformed by Christ with a result that an impact in His name is felt to the ends of the earth.
- ⇒ **What is the Strategy?** To shift the culture of our church to a Disciple Making Culture.
- ⇒ Who's is the training for? The training is for all church officers, church deacons, all committee members, all ministry teams, all Sunday School teachers, and spouses of these leaders. Other family members are invited to eat with us and childcare will be available upon request for the actual training time.
- ⇒ **Who will lead the training?** Brother Donnie and Brother Jim will be leading us in this training time.
- ⇒ **What time is the training?** After church Sunday morning, September 12. The training will start after we eat and should be finished right around 1:30.
- ⇒ **Where will the training take place?** We will eat and do our training in the Family Life Center.
- ⇒ What will we eat? We are going to keep lunch simple deli sandwiches, chips, light dessert, and drinks. You are welcome to bring your own lunch if this will not meet your dietary needs.
- ⇒ **Is this training important for me to attend?** Yes, this will be one of the most important times we have for training this year. It is very important that everyone serving the Lord through church ministry know how their service fits into the bigger picture of God's call on us. We pray that this time together will encourage, inform, and inspire us to move forward into God's desired future for us.
- ⇒ **Do you have question?** Call us at the church office and we will be glad to answer any question you have.



I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

As of this moment on September 1, we are moving forward with our plans to relaunch our full Sunday School ministry with adults meeting in regular classrooms. Since around May of 2020 we have been meeting in the Family Life Center and in the Sanctuary. We feel the time has come to relaunch. However, we are carefully watching our community to see the effect of Covid. If the JISD closes, then we will delay our Sunday School reopening. We will keep you informed with any developments.

Our plan is to promote our children into their next Sunday School classes on September 5. On that same day we will have our adult classes going again. We are making two changes with the adult classes. You have likely seen information on these changes already, so this is a recap for most of you. Colin Townsend will be leading a class in the computer lab for adults who are in the younger family age status. This will roughly be adults in their 20's and 30's. This will include singles, young marrieds, and those with young children. Jim Hamilton will be leading a class for those who have moved up from Colin's class. Jim's stage of life class is for those who are roughly in their 40's and 50's, and/or who have children in middle school and high school. There will also be singles and marrieds in this class who fit the age and/or family parameters. Jim's class will meet in room #134.

Someone might ask, "why are we doing this?" The answer is fairly simple. We know that if we want to reach younger people and people with younger families, we have to create a place for them to learn the Bible and to apply the Bible to their life stage. I remember how much it meant to Irma and me (when we had a young family) to be able to share with and learn from people who were facing our same issues. This is the environment we want to create for adults in our community who are looking for a church home.

These plans are part of how we will fulfill our vision. I'm excited to see what God will do among us.

I can hardly wait!

Brother Donnie



Make every effort to come to me soon; for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for service.

--2 Timothy 4: 9-11--

I read a story recently of a faithful pastor who had a meeting with his local supervisor for his yearly review. The superior told him, "I'm really concerned. Only one person has been added to your church this year – and he's only a boy." The pastor returned to his church that day discouraged. As he was praying in the sanctuary, he heard someone walk up behind him. It was the one boy who had been added to his congregation that year. The boy asked, "Pastor, do you think I could become a preacher or missionary some day?" The pastor encouraged him to pray and seek God about it. The boy was Robert Moffat who was destined to open Africa to the Gospel of Christ. Years later, when Moffat spoke in London, a young doctor heard him say, "I have seen in the morning sun the smoke of a thousand villages where no missionary has ever been." The young doctor, deeply moved by Moffat's message, was none other than David Livingstone. In 1840, he sailed for Africa where he labored for Jesus for more than three decades—all of this happened because a faithful pastor encouraged his "one convert."

When it comes to sharing the Gospel with others, we cannot get discouraged if only a small number ever respond. We must disciple faithfully those the Lord has given us – because you never know the impact they may one day have for the Kingdom! So, let's pray and ask God to bring people into our lives who we can share the Gospel with and encourage spiritually.

Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love;
 Tell of His pow'r to forgive;
Others will trust Him if only you prove
 True ev'ry moment you live.
Make me a blessing, make me a blessing,
Out of my life May Jesus shine;
Make me a blessing, O savior, I pray,
Make me a blessing to someone today.

You are loved, Bro. Woody



A Page from Jim's Journal



There are some exciting changes going on in the ministry to our students at First Baptist! I have written an email to detail some of this but I wanted to send out the information one more time to make sure everyone knows that we are going to start bridging the generational gap between our students and the adults in our church. Sunday morning worship has been a sweet time for our church to come together these past 6 months. Though our students are continuously invited and encouraged to join us, a majority stick to participating on Sunday evenings and Wednesday evenings. This lack of participation deprives all of us of the blessing of worship towards Jesus with all generations and the opportunities for relationships to form that could result in discipleship opportunities.

At the very start of 2020 we began to use Sunday evenings as an opportunity to disciple students through teaching "practical life skills" they would need to know as a college student or young adult. We would have a different adult from the church host every Sunday night, either at their house or at the church and they would teach a valuable skill to the students. Our students are lacking in some of the most basic skills that you might take for granted because the family unit has changed or it was never taught to their parents.

Some examples of nights that were hosted in early 2020:

- 1. Gill's House: Brian Gill taught students how to properly start a camp fire outdoors.
- 2. Keith Hilderbrand: Taught students basic car maintenance at the church
- 3. Michelle Webb: Taught students how to cook a meal at the church (They then had some to eat but most was delivered to the women's shelter)
- 4. Tatum's: Brian Tatum taught a self defense class in the gym
- 5. Dr. Hamilton: Taught the students how to write a thank-you letter in the gym at the start of summer 2021.
- 6. Slaton's house: I taught the guys how to tie a tie and Jenni Few came in to give the girls a make-up tutorial.

The possibilities are endless and the time spent together builds relationships. Relationships built gives you the opportunity to check on these students, invite them to church, have them sit with you, invite them to lunch afterwards, etc. It's common to think teenagers do not want this but they really do! Most crave a family relationship because they lack one at home. Even if they have a loving family, they need us to be spiritual parents and grandparents in their lives. Volunteering your time and skills on a Sunday evening is a practical and beneficial way for us to begin bridging the gap.

Here are some things involved with hosting:

- 1. The meeting time is 5 PM to 7 PM on Sunday evenings.
- 2. We can meet at your house (the students enjoy going different places) or do it at the church (sometimes this is more practical).
- 3. Share a life-skill with the students that particularly interests you.
- 4. Share your testimony or tie in the life skill with bible teaching.

I prefer the host to share or partner with someone who can share. It helps build the relationship with students and allows them to know more of who you are. However I am always good to share or tie it into a biblical lesson if you need me to. So please don't shy away from hosting because speaking makes you nervous. I'll do that if you need me to.

We eat! This can be whatever you want it to be. It can be as simple as pizza, hot dogs, or nachos. Just like teaching, you can partner up with someone to do the food or handle it yourself. Please do not let this scare you away either. I'll handle food if you need me to.

As student pastor, I am in the unique position of experiencing the joys of multiple generations. I absolutely love our students, and I absolutely love our church (people). I want you and our students to experience a multigenerational fellowship and I believe this will be a helpful tool in getting us there. Please consider sharing a life skill you are passionate about with our students in this upcoming school year.

-Jim