

**April 16th** 

**Taco Bar Dessert**  **April 23rd** 

**King Ranch Casserole Sweet Potato Casserole** 

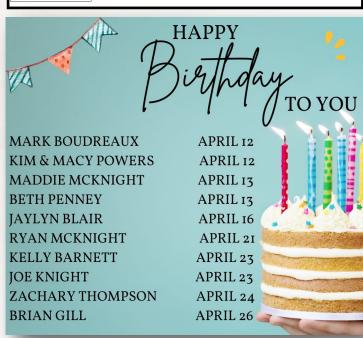
Salad

**Banana Pudding** 

**Dessert** 

\$5 a person for adults

Children under 18 eat free

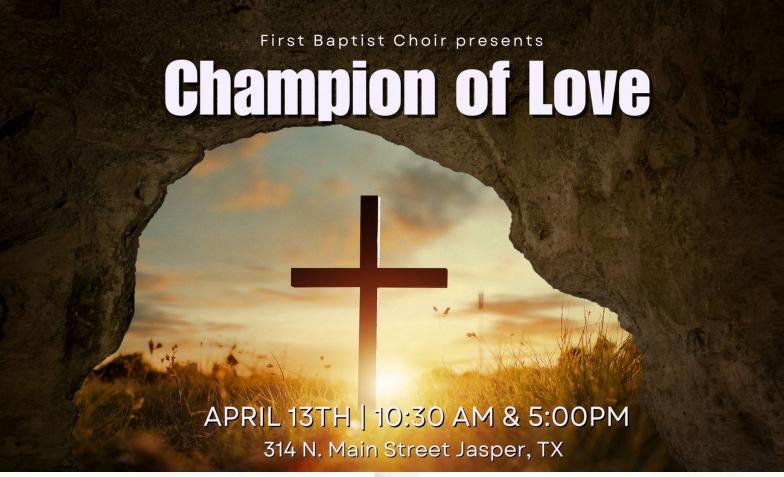






109-384-7033 Beth Penney, Office Manager. Christian School..





To my precious church family,

I am thankful for so many things - but at the top of the list is my family and my church family. Your kind acts during these last two weeks has been overwhelming.

> Thank you! Betty Powers

## I've Been Thinking...

Dear Church Family,

We Christians are on the cusp of the most important day of our year - we are soon to celebrate Easter. Easter, of course, is the name given to the day Jesus rose from the grave. Some prefer using the name "Resurrection Sunday" due to the theory that the word "easter" came from the name of a pagan goddess. Interestingly, recent scholarship is moving away from that understanding of the etymology of the word "easter." Perhaps the adage of Shakespeare works here, "a rose by any other name would smell just as sweet." Each year, on a day agreed upon by most Christians, the world-wide church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus!

The dating of Easter is not easy. To some degree it is connected to the Jewish dating of Passover. I guess the simplest description of the dating process is to say that the date of Easter is set on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox. Oh boy. That's a mouth full. That explains why sometimes Easter is in March and sometimes in April (like this year). For our Eastern Orthodox friends, it's even more complicated than that. Too complicated to try to describe here.

Whatever you call it and however you date it the significance of it is unparalleled. Only the birth of Jesus comes close to the importance of Easter for Christians. The early followers of Jesus found the tomb of Jesus empty three days after they buried Him. They would have blamed this on grave robbers, I suppose, had they not seen Jesus with their own eyes on the same day they found the empty tomb. Over the next few days, the followers of Jesus saw Him many times. They touched Him. They ate with Him. They talked with Him. Their conviction that He was alive later gave them the courage to die for Him.

So, here is the bold in your face declaration of Easter - Jesus, who died 2000 years ago came back to life and lives today as our savior and Lord. If you believe that fact EVERYTHING changes in your life! Would you join us on April 20 and worship Jesus!

I can hardly wait . . .

**Brother Donnie** 

## A Note from Bro. Woody

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

--Matthew 5: 16--

On Christmas Eve, 1875, Ira Sankey was traveling on a steamboat down the Delaware River when he was recognized by some passengers. Sankey, who was the song leader for the famous evangelist D.L. Moody, was asked by the passengers to sing a hymn on the main deck so everyone could hear. After he was finished, a man stepped from the shadows and asked, "Sir, did you serve in the Union Army?" "Yes," Sankey replied. "Can you remember if you were doing picket duty on a bright moonlit night in 1862?" the man continued. "Yes, I remember that," Sankey replied with a surprised look on his face. "I was doing picket duty that same night, but I was in the Confederate Army. I saw you standing at your post, and I raised my musket and took aim. Just then, I heard you start singing a hymn to yourself. And my arm dropped to my side of its own accord. I just couldn't shoot."

It's impossible to know the extent to which your life may inspire others. Simply by singing a song, being kind to others, or reading your Bible, you can influence others toward Jesus Christ. What you do matters. We must pursue Christ in our actions every day and let God use us to bring others to Him! Let's ask God to show us how to pursue Him daily, and pray that our actions would inspire others to follow Christ as well.

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name,
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you to share His love as He told me to.
He said: "Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely give;
Go in My name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live."

You are loved, Bro. Woody Dear FBC Family,

"One generation will declare your works to the next and will proclaim your mighty acts."

— Psalm 145:4 (CSB)

Generation Alpha has officially arrived in our student ministry. Born between 2010 and 2024, they are growing up in a world that is rapidly changing. But reaching them isn't about gimmicks or secrets. The same truths still stand:

- The Holy Spirit empowers us.
- The Bible remains relevant and sufficient.

The Gospel still saves.

As we seek to disciple this generation, here are a few key things to understand about them:

1. Many Gen Alpha kids are being raised by spiritually undisciplined parents.

Most of their parents are Millennials, many of whom were not consistently engaged in the church and haven't been deeply discipled themselves.

Question for us: What are we doing to equip and disciple parents to become the primary spiritual leaders in their homes?

- 2. Screens are their security blanket.
- The average age for receiving a smartphone is now 9.
- 79% of Millennial parents say their kids are already on social media.
- Video games are their favorite hobby.

64% of Gen Alpha would rather be a YouTuber than the President of the United States.

Excessive screen time has hindered their ability to form in-person connections and develop relational skills.

3. They've already entered the gender and sexuality conversation.

84% of Gen Alpha believe people's preferred pronouns should be respected.

- 4. Mental and emotional health are major priorities.
- 59% agree that mental health is a serious issue among their peers.

62% believe schools should focus more on mental health education than physical education.

5. Gen Alpha isn't the church of tomorrow — they are the church of today.

They're not just the future of the church. *They are part of the body now.* Our responsibility is to equip and empower them to walk with Jesus *now* — to know His voice, follow His lead, and boldly live out their faith.

Let's continue to pray, disciple, and partner together as a church family to raise up this generation in the truth and grace of Jesus Christ.

## Aubrey



