



PO Box 283 · 408 W. Chestnut
Grapeland, TX 75844
936 687-2558

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #19
Grapeland, TX 75844

Return Service Requested

The Vision

NEWSLETTER

Todd Nivens Mark Stephenson Gabe Duron
Pastor Minister to Students Minister of Worship

FEBRUARY 2012

This is what I know. . .

This Sunday morning I will begin a series on marriage. Many of you have been asking if I had decided not to cover the seventh chapter of 1 Corinthians. Yes, we will cover it as well as all the bible has to say about marriage, divorce, remarriage, singleness, and celibacy. We will look at what the scriptures say, what questions they were addressing and the practical application of the truth we glean from them. I have been looking forward to this teaching time. We need to know the truth of scripture, not what we have been told, or even what we personally think is right. We must base our truth in the Word of God. Even though I will be speaking plainly about the topic at hand, I hope that you encourage your kids to listen. They are bombarded with a secular worldview of marriage and family every day. I know that some of the topics that I need to address will be sensitive. I will do my best to handle them in an appropriate way. The number one point of attack on our country is at the family level. Please join us on Sunday morning as we dig deep into the Word. It will change your life!
Bro. Todd

SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

February 14 9:00 A.M.

Good food, games and fellowship in the FLC Foyer
All seniors are welcome to attend!



Women on Mission will meet February 15 at Arwena Lively's home, 505 Redbud. Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. Vegetable Soup is on the menu for lunch and all

attending are asked to bring a canned vegetable to add to the soup pot.

Phase II Project...

This is a brief account of the auditorium renovation project to date:

- Pews and carpet removed
- Windows covered for protection from damage
- Stage build out is complete
- Foyer interior doors removed and reframed for replacement
- New pews ordered



Awana and the Awana logo are Registered Trademarks of the Awana Clubs International. Used by permission.

Awana Clubs meet on
Wednesdays, 4:00-6:00 pm
during the school year

January average attendance:
Children—94; Leaders—47

Cubbies

Age 3-4
(must be 3 years
old by Sept. 1)

Sparks

K-2nd Grade

T & T

3rd-6th Grade

Ladies Book Club...Reminder

Hope you are enjoying your book.....The Ultimate Gift!

Be sure to make plans to attend the discussion and fellowship night. Those that signed up for Thursday, March 1, at 6:00 p.m. will meet at Patti Huff's for a light supper, fellowship, and discussion. Those that signed up for Friday, March 2, at 6:00 p.m. will meet at Aimee Duron's for a light supper, fellowship, and discussion. Directions to each place will be sent closer to time.

Have fun reading and come prepared to learn from each other.



Worship Ministry Opportunities

This spring is a great time to be involved in the Worship Ministry! Take a look at all the opportunities below!

Children's Choir Ministry (ages 3 - 6th Grade) Meets on Sundays at 6pm

Sanctuary Choir (adults) Meets on Sundays @ 4:45pm

Orchestra (youth & adults) Meets on Sundays @ 8:30am

Media Team (youth & adults) Serve on Sundays in A.M. & P.M. worship services



Children's Choir Ministry Spring Kick-off a Great Success!

A big "THANK YOU" goes out to the parents of our young musicians! The little ones had a great time making guitars, decorating cookies, listening to music and of course, eating the cookies they decorated! Special thanks also goes out to our Children's Choir ministry leaders, Aimee Duron, Jean Witt, Bonnie Patterson & Kathy Richmond for their dedication each week to leading these children.

Sanctuary Choir

The Sanctuary Choir is already working on some anthems to be presented later this spring. In addition to choral anthems, the choir is preparing for a special time of worship in May. If you love people and love to sing, we have a place for you in the Sanctuary Choir! We meet each Sunday at 4:45pm in the choir room. Join us this Sunday!



Singing Men of East Texas in Concert...

The Singing Men of East Texas will be in concert on Thursday, February 16th at 7pm at First Baptist Church of Rusk. This will be a great evening of

worship that you won't want to miss! If you're interested in attending or would like more details, contact Gabe Duron at gabe@fbcgrapeland.com.

Reminder. . .

Bulletin and Power-point Screen

Items for publication in the weekly bulletin or announcements on the power-point screen must be received in the church office by noon on Thursday of each week.

Event Registration Form

Are you planning a meeting, bible study, or other event? Please remember to fill out an Event Registration Form. Forms may be picked up in the church office or downloaded at www.fbcgrapeland.com. All scheduling is done through Necia Huff, secretary.

FBC Grapeland Online!

If you haven't visited our online home, www.fbcgrapeland.com recently, you're missing out on lots of information and great resources! In addition to viewing pictures, videos and information, you can now do all sorts of things online like submit prayer requests, watch our worship services, register for events and even pay for event registration right from the comfort of your home! Be sure to check it out soon!

For Your Information

Stamps for Mission Project—"Thank you" for saving stamps for the mission project. Please save postage stamps and put them in the collection box in our East Foyer. All stamps are acceptable. *Please remember when cutting them off envelopes, leave an ample margin around the stamps.* Stamps are sold by the pound with the proceeds used for mission projects.

Flowers for Worship Service—please call the church office for available dates if you wish to provide flowers for the worship service. The flowers are provided each week by individuals, ministry groups, Sunday School classes, etc. If you wish to reserve a date to provide the flowers, please contact the church office, 687-2558.

"Growing with God" Cookbooks—contains favorite recipes from our church members as well as friends of FBC. The cookbooks are available at the church office for \$10 each. All proceeds of the sales are designated for the building program.

"In His Time" recollections of the Christian missionary Estella Grooters Brown, is available in our church office for a suggested donation of \$10.

Library Hours:

Sunday: 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.
10:30 to 10:55 a.m.
12:00 to 12:30 p.m.
6:45 to 7:00 p.m.

God's Roadmap to Peace: A Study of the Book of Revelation

by David R. Bradley. Our church website will direct you to www.Amazon.com where you may purchase the book (should be eligible for free shipping). It is also on the Barnes & Noble website.

You "CAN" Help—the Maratha Class has an ongoing project of collecting and selling aluminum cans. If you have cans that you would like to donate to their project you may call Peggy McFarland, 546-4356, and they will arrange to pick them up. You may also contact Betty Peterson at Time II or our church office, 687-2558.

Constitution and By-laws—two amendment changes to our Constitution and By-laws were approved at our December 2011 Business Meeting. If you want your booklet updated, please bring it to the church office so that the necessary pages can be replaced.

Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions—total received was \$6,311.00.

APPRECIATION

Definition: Recognize the full worth of. Be grateful for (something).

We just started a study on the character traits of a “**true Christian**”.

The term Christian has been so broadly used, and so inclusive of those who make claims but show no fruit, that the mere mention of claiming to be Christian draws criticism. True that there is liberty, but as Todd has stated, “If there is no change, there is no change.” Oddly enough the youth will tell you that I’ve held that same ideology. **Don’t tell me—show me!** Show us they did!

Two weeks ago we had an amazing move of “The Holy Spirit” in our youth group. The students spent nearly two and a half hours praying, testifying, and confessing their needs. It was amazing to those who witnessed it.

Strangely, there are those who would think that such things are contrived, faked, or possibly not of God. In some cases that may be true. **Such was not the case here.**

To the point: Todd and I have reviewed much literature separately on various topics for today’s Christian youth. We discovered we were reviewing much of the same material and topics. One that really stuck out was ethics and integrity issues. The leading character trait “of a true Christian” was **appreciation**.

As the author put it, “**All things must stem from a genuine appreciation of what God has revealed to you**”. To that point and before we began this study, the key term used that Wednesday was how much they appreciated what God had done for them.

Two things happened:

- 1) God honored their testimonies and freed them up to confess, discuss and trust.
- 2) The message on what we were about to teach was confirmed.

I wanted to share this awesome display of God’s work with you and also tell you how much I **appreciate** all you do. It truly does begin with **appreciation**.

Thanks and love ya!
Bro. Mark



“Love is a verb”

Church-wide Valentine Banquet

Sunday Night, February 12 6-8 pm in the FLC

Donations accepted—give as the Lord has blessed you and you are able.

Youth Fundraiser for Summer Camp
Help us send every kid to summer camp!

Food, entertainment and inspiration with those you love most!

Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread, dessert and a great time!

Need student tutorial time?? Come join us from 4-5:30 in the youth room each Wednesday for help, Mr. and Mrs. Norman are there to help you!!

Youth worship service starts at 6 pm on Wednesdays!! Come join our study on ethics.

Sunday Morning Youth Bible Study at 9:15 study on Apologetics! Know what you believe and why. How can you defend your faith and apply it to your everyday life.



Youth Camp
Orange Beach, Alabama
June 17-21
7th-12th grades completed
Cost – \$339
\$50 Deposit due by
February 26



at Pineywoods Encampment

3rd – 6th Grade completed

Cost: \$175 if registered by June 22

Contact the church office for registration form and information.



LIBRARY NEWS

The following media have been added to the library:

Non-fiction:

Killing Lincoln by Bill O’Reilly and Martin Dugard. This biography of Lincoln has been described as a must-read historical thriller. It is the story of an American tragedy that changed the course of U.S. history.

Fiction:

House of Secrets by Tracie Peterson. When three sisters return to the summer house of their childhood, and dark memories surface of their ill mother—and their father’s desperate choice—is the silence they are keeping hurt them more than the truth?

To Have and To Hold by Tracie Peterson. By moving with her father to his ancestral home, Audrey hoped the move would keep him sober and close to God. Then when wealthy developers want their home for a grand resort, both of their lives are endangered because they refuse to sell. (This is the first book in a series.)

Video Cassettes:

Two videos from the Adventures in Odyssey series titled “Electric Christmas” and “Baby Daze.” Three Veggie Tales videos titled “Loving Your Neighbor,” “The Toy That Saved Christmas,” and “Where’s God When I’m Scared?” (These videos were donated to us by First Baptist Church, Palestine, via Lawrence Richie. Since there are several more, it will take us a while to get them ready for the library.)