

Strong Again

Don't you like things that get off to a great start? The excitement and commitment of a new beginning are truly wonderful. You may have been a part of a new company, school, or congregation. Beginnings are exhilarating times when there is so much to do. There is work for everyone. There are things to build, plans to make, and works to organize.

In Acts 19 the church in Ephesus began with a bang. Paul found some disciples of John and taught them about Christ. He taught in the synagogue and later for two years in the school of Tyrannus. The work in Ephesus was so effective that those who made their living from the worship of pagan gods (ie Demetrius the silver-smith) felt threatened and led a riot to stop this movement. What a beginning! Imagine being so effective with the gospel that the pagans protest.

That really is an impressive start. However, there is no such body of Christians in that area today. Somewhere along the way the excitement left them. In the words of Christ the Ephesian church, "...abandoned the love you had at first." (Revelation 2:4).

This church is decades from its beginning. Many of us are decades from the day we began our new life in Jesus Christ. From time to time we need to recommit to the first love. I have recommitted myself to what I began to do years ago. Will you join me?

Bo Shero



Thank you to Maria Davila for providing the delicious chili and thank you to Steve and Jennifer Gustin for providing the desserts! Everything was wonderful!

Please join us next Wednesday as Peter and Liz Anderson will be serving turkey and dressing and the Over the Hill Gang will be providing dessert.



Thank you seems so small compared to your generosity. But, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! Our cupcake fundraiser was a great success thanks to all of you. With 300 cupcakes that sold for one dollar each, we raised a total of \$611. To quote Bo's article from last year, that's "God's math!" Our Antigua mission trip will be here before we know it and to have your support and prayers behind us is priceless! Thank you again for loving us, church family! - Neil Weems, Emma Weems, Katy Cabe, Jason Cabe, John Ryan and Ashton Ryan

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

Family News & Notes

OUR ILL - Ann Owen received her bone marrow transplant last week and we thank God that everything is going according to plan! Please continue to pray that all goes amazing and that the transplant will be a complete success and also for good health and good spirits for her donor.

Braylee Ryan was referred to and seen by a rheumatologist Wednesday. She continues to undergo tests. She will also be seeing two other specialists next Wednesday.

Hunter Hillock remains in UMC.

Also, please continue to pray for **Marcelino & Orfila Banda, Eric & Rita Osborne, Barry & Marsha Wiseman, Mike & Ann Owen, Gary & Katy Cabe, Jonathan Hester, Sammy & Dean Cox, Mary Gonzales, Margaret Gonzales, and Hunter Hillock.**

SYMPATHY - We are in sympathy with Cindy Cousineau, over the passing of her mother, Forrest Victoria Stubblefield, this past Thursday a week ago. Services are pending.

CONGRATULATIONS - Santos and Maria Davila are proud to announce the birth of their great-grandson, Levi Ruben, January 19th. Levi weighed 9lbs, 11 oz. and measured 21 inches long. Levi is the son of Ashley Anthony.

LTC MARATHON PRACTICE - We will have a marathon practice this Sunday, from 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM in the FLC. Lunch will be provided! Bible Bowl kids, make sure your questions are done through chapter 10 and Bible Quiz kids, make sure your chapters are completed. Also, please start learning your drama and puppet lines!

YOUNG AT HEART - The *Young at Heart* will meet for a noon luncheon, Thursday, at the FLC. Bring your favorite potluck dish & join us!

COUPLES SHOWER - Before they say "I do", join us for a *Couples Shower Sandwich Supper* in honor of Rhonda Hartman and Greg Holt on Sunday, February 24th, at 6:30 pm in the FLC. Any questions, please call Johnna Shero, Paige Lindsey, or Debbie Jones.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL - Just a reminder, World Bible School's quarterly preacher pays are due this month.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS - We appreciate those of you that have signed up to take care of meals and or desserts for your church family! These meals are truly a blessing to us all and a very important ministry to others even outside the family! So thank you, thank you, thank you!! Also, while on this note, sign-up sheets posted for the months of March and April will be posted by Sunday!

THANK YOU - *Thank you all so much for your prayers, cards, calls, food, and good wishes during my recent fall and illness. You are such a wonderful family!* - **Lavone Lewis**

Reynolds Rap

Facing the Giants

One of the best movies ever produced about sports, is called "Facing the Giants". It's a football movie about facing the giants in our lives and giving God the glory through it all. At the turning point in the movie, the coach is trying to encourage one young man to do his best, and go as far as he could without quitting. The coach asks the young man to meet him at the goal line and get on all fours, which they affectionately call "the death crawl" and with a blindfold on, asks the young man to begin crawling. As the young man starts out, he is on all fours, crawling the length of the football field with another boy on his back. As he crawls, he keeps asking the coach how far he had gone and the coach continues encouraging him to do his best and not give up. As the young man continues to crawl and get tired, he continues to struggle and ask the coach, "Have I gone far enough?" and all the coach will tell him is... "just a few more yards". The coach is down in front of the young man yelling at him to give it all he has and to leave it all on the field. When the young man finally collapses and cannot physically go any further, he takes off his blindfold and he has crawled 100 yards with another boy on his back! The coach encouraged the young man and as the other players witnessed what was happening, they too were encouraged. They were encouraged to do better, be better and to live better, giving Glory to God in all things! They were a team and knew that they had to work together as a cohesive unit in order to achieve their goals. They had to face their giants together. The church is similar to a team, we were never intended to go at it alone. We need one another for help and encouragement. We need one another to remind us to never give up, and to give it all we have, even in the most difficult of times. We were made to encourage one another. In Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, King Solomon wisely writes about how we need one another, how we draw strength and help from one another and how we pick one another up when the other falls down. Our encouragement toward one another is vital for the church to be healthy. So how are you? Are you facing your giants alone?

Darrell Chappell

The Weekly Record

Contributions:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Sunday's Offering | \$ 10001 |
| Weekly Budget | \$ 9500 |

Attendance:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Bible Classes | 133 |
| Morning Assembly | 192 |
| Evening Assembly | -- |
| Midweek Men & Ladies AM Classes | 31 |
| Midweek Classes & Outreach | 70 |
| Thursday School | 35 |

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US POSTAGE PAID
BROWNFIELD TX
PERMIT NO 502

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
BROWNFIELD BUILDER
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Brownfield Church of Christ

February 15, 2019

Vol. 15. No. 6



From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:16

Meeting Times

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|-------------------------|----------|
| Sunday: | |
| Bible Class | 9:30 am |
| Morning Assembly | 10:30 am |
| Evening Assembly | 5:00 pm |
| Wednesday: | |
| Evening Meal (Sept-May) | 6:00 pm |
| Bible Class | 7:00 pm |