

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

of Weatherford

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Attending Regularly Serving Willingly Giving Generously Living Uprightly

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Collection Week is:
November 15 - 22, 2009

All boxes must be at the church by
SUNDAY MORNING - November 22nd



This program, established by Samaritan's Purse, delivers gift-filled shoe boxes or plastic containers the same size as a shoe box, to poor, sick, & suffering children all over the world. Operation Christmas Child is one special way you can make a difference in a child's life. Information available in the church office.

Churchwide Thanksgiving Meal

November 22nd 6:00 p.m. in the FLC

The church will provide meat, rolls, drinks, and paper goods. You are asked to bring two of the following dishes: vegetable, salad, or dessert.

Nursery provided for 3 and under.
Please feed your child before you bring them.

Trimming the Tree Service

Sunday - November 29
6:00 p.m.

Your family of one or more may participate by bringing an assigned ornament and reading an assigned Scripture. Sign up in the North Foyer. Be one of the 27 families.

Rejoice!

If being plunged under water at the church causes salvation, I should be well prepared for eternity. On the night of October 28th I found myself perched on a collapsible seat atop a rented dunk tank as small crowds formed to watch the spectacle. The children's activity spilled over to include several youth and a few adults. For nearly an hour and a half I periodically splashed into the goldfish-filled water. No, it was not heated, but thanks for caring.

Children not yet in school inched up closer to the target and occasionally succeeded in tripping the seat. Girls who had been raised to respect their pastor forgot what they had been taught. Young people repeatedly got back in line and celebrated their victories together. One lady simply pushed the lever with her hand in order to send me in for the first time.

I did not keep count, but would guess that I went under at least twenty times – full immersion. The water was cold, but the experience was well worth it. Anything that makes people laugh without being immoral or illegal or hurtful is a good thing. Relationships within our church were strengthened. Bridges into the lives of other people were built – all with a simple rented dunk tank and a preacher who didn't mind getting wet.

Now, let me clarify my original statement. Immersion in water does not determine anyone's eternal destiny. Baptism is significant in that it publically pledges a commitment to Jesus Christ, the Son of God. I am convinced that every Christian will want to be baptized. Baptism is a testimony of faith, but it is no substitute for faith.

If you have trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior and have not been baptized after doing so, why not give me a call and let's set up a time when you can do so. The water will be warm and the Lord will be pleased. Don't be ashamed to publicly identify with the One who publicly died for you.

Earl

Finish

Running is a hard thing, especially when you have not done it in years. I have started running again and will be running in my first 5k this Saturday. Will I be able to run the whole thing? Probably not, but I am going to try. In college I played baseball as a pitcher, so that meant you had to run all the time. I have always been a bigger guy, so running was not my favorite thing. In fact it was the worst thing about playing sports. The coaches required us to run 3-5 miles every other day. A few others guys and I made a pact that when we finished baseball we would never run again because we hated it so much, but over the years as my knees and back have begun to hurt, I decided to lace the shoes back up and start jogging. That first day back on the road was horrible! It brought back all those old feelings of running in college. But, I finished the first day and could proudly say, "I made it!"

Now I've been running three days a week for the past two weeks. A few nights ago, our entire family went out walking and jogging. After a few streets, I got ahead and wanted to finish strong, so I jogged to the end of the street and sprinted back. For some random reason, I got really brave and wanted to sprint the big hill. After about 4 steps, my mind began to take over and tell my body that "I am done! I'm so tired!" Just then my wife came up and shouted "KEEP GOING! FINISH!" That put a fire in me, and I finished the hill. It felt so good to not quit at the hardest part of my run.

In my life I have watched many of my friends not finish what God called them to do. In life it is easy to start things but when you get tired, someone hurts your feelings, or you get mad you just give up and quit. But just as Courtney was there to encourage me to finish my uphill run, God is with you always encouraging you to keep going on your uphill journey with Him! So if you feel like giving up this week, don't! God is right there with you and wants you to finish strong. He always has and always will make a way to keep going. FINISH!!

Jeremy "Worm" Johnson

BBB V OFFERING

A "Baptist Building Bailout" offering will be received on Sunday morning, November 22nd. All money received will go toward the principle of the loan we have taken out with the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma. The offering total will be announced at the all church Thanksgiving meal that evening. You may contribute early if you will not be here on the 22nd.

~ ~ ~ MEN NEEDED ~ ~ ~

We have 2 days scheduled to construct the frame of the Living Christmas Tree. Those days are Thursday, November 19 at 8:00 a.m. and Friday, November 20 at 8:00 a.m. Please call the church office or John Webb (772-6178) if you are available to help.

The Tree is Coming!

December 4th, 5th, and 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets Are Required

Free tickets are available in the church office.



New First Family



Bentlee Robinson

Sunday School

November 8

607

Expanding His Reach Building Campaign



Amount Given to Date - \$ 2,742,119.56