

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

of Weatherford

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Attending Regularly Serving Willingly Giving Generously Living Uprightly

Reaching the World with the Heart of Christ

By Tom Willis

As I think of church building programs and the effect those changes have had on my family, I think of a church that was full at the corner of Custer and Franklin. Debbie and I were married in that building in September 1969.

I also remember that the church was full to the max with some Sunday School classes being held in the bank across the street. I remember a wife and Sunday School class reaching out to a husband and brother in Christ to get him back in church. I think of a husband, dad, and Sunday School member in 1977 who rededicated his life and transferred his membership to that full church. Lots of people were making changes and joining FBC at this time. In April of 1978 the church moved to its current location and later the Family Life Center was added.

I have seen my family saved, baptized, and educated in the Scripture in these buildings, and the place is full again. I just can't tell you how excited I am to see how the Lord will use this new expansion and fill it with moms, dads, kids, families, and everyone who wants to worship Him with a great church family as the Willis family did years ago.

Save the Dates

Ladies' Night Out - March 27th
Men's Steak Night - April 17th
All Church Revival - April 26-29

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Beginning in March

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. - Noon

Rejoice!

Through the years I have tried multiple creative options in sermon presentation. Once I preached before the singing. That did not work. When I finished the sermon, people were still looking at me in puzzled amazement, wondering why preaching would come before singing. The issue was complicated by singing after the end of the sermon – as they had been conditioned to believe that the end of the sermon marked the end of the worship service.

I went through one faze when I tried to complete all sermons in 20 minutes or less. Too bad you missed that, huh? Eventually I gravitated toward a full half hour. I have used objects for illustrations. I have dressed in costume and used monologues. Once I started out on top of a ladder.

It was not until I moved to Weatherford that I began to use power point in the sermons – throwing main points up on the screen. I also began using fill in the blank notes on the back of the bulletin. The notes have enhanced the preaching very much. As you write down what you hear, you absorb more truth. As you follow along, you realize we are making progress and the end of the sermon is coming soon. If you are asked what the sermon was about, you have a skeleton outline to answer with. We will continue to use the fill in the blank outlines.

But I need your help. More times than not I conclude the sermon, and give an appeal for action after the final blank has been filled in. Many are distracted by the clicking of pens, zipping of Bible covers and closing of purses. It challenges me to keep the attention of the congregation when so many are shutting down shop. So – would you be one who remains attentive until the invitation is over? God speaks in a still, small voice that is easily drowned out by even minor interruptions.

Thanks for coming and listening and allowing others to do the same.

I love you,
Earl



Here are a few upcoming events!

Winter Jam 2009

Cost: 20 Bucks!

February 26th leave at 4:00pm return at 11:30pm!

Lunch Bunch

Anyone with off Campus lunch!
Bring 2 bucks meet at the FLC!
Every Wednesday in February!

Sunday Night!

Guys: 7:00pm New Study on Character!
Cost: 5 Bucks
Girls: 7:00p New study on Faithfulness!
Cost: 8 Bucks

Spring Break Trip

March 17-20th

Cost: 65 Bucks

First 40 to sign up can go!

Facing the Giants

Sunday Evening - February 22nd
6:00 p.m.
Family Life Center

Bring snacks to share after the movie. Use this as an outreach and fellowship opportunity for your Sunday School Class.
Childcare provided through 4 years old.

Insurance

Requesting proposal to insure 3 buildings and liability. Respondent must meet or exceed current coverage. For further information on current coverage contact Christi Duvall @ 772-2771. Proposals are due no later than March 31st in the church office. If you have any questions contact Jerry Allen @ 774-9816

Weatherford Food Pantry

Items for February - Cold or Hot Cereal
Please leave items in the North Foyer



New First Family



Nikolas Faulk

Expanding His Reach Building Campaign



Amount Given to Date - \$ 2,506,243.46

Sunday School
Attendance

February 15

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