

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

of Weatherford

Mailing Address:  
1510 E. Davis Rd.  
Weatherford, OK 73096

Phone: 580-772-2771  
Email: fbcwford@fbcweatherford.com  
Website: www.fbcweatherford.com

**Attending Regularly    Serving Willingly    Giving Generously    Living Uprightly**



National Day of Prayer  
Thursday - May 7, 2009

Participate By....

- Breakfast at The Mark Restaurant on Thursday at 6:45 a.m. (Free and open to the public)
- Prayer Vigil on Thursday at Centennial Park. Our assigned time is from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., but you may pray anytime after 8:00 a.m. Stay as long as you wish.

### Upcoming Sermons About Family



- May 3 - God's Wedding Ceremony
- May 10 - Harmony In The Home
- May 17 - Straight Talk About Staying Together

### Rejoice!

A bit of the barbeque sandwich overflowed and dropped downward. The right toe of my new white athletic shoes prevented the food from touching the concrete. I kicked and the meat flew outward, leaving an obvious stain that penetrated the mesh fabric. I looked down at the shoes as I made my way over to pick up a cup of water. The worst was yet to come.

The small divided plate held baked beans, potato salad, and nachos in addition to the sandwich I mentioned. Oh - I also had a small slice of watermelon as well as the brownie a nice lady had positioned on top of the bun. The entire plate was balanced on the collection of books and CD's I accumulated during the morning sessions of the Men's Conference at Falls Creek. I hurried to find a place to inhale the food before making my way to the van headed back for Weatherford.

I descended a couple of steps in search of a bleacher to sit on. The plate slid on one of the CD's. My reaction time was not fast enough to stop the spill. About a third of the food ended up on the sidewalk. The items remaining on my plate formed an interesting combination of flavors as I ate them. Have you ever had a brownie covered in baked bean juice or a watermelon slice lathered with potato salad? "It all gets mixed up anyway." Daddy's voice from the past offered a little encouragement.

Eventually I dropped the plate in the trash can, wiped up the sidewalk, and washed my hands. I wanted to go home and forget the disaster of my own creation. You see, I was in a hurry. That's why I didn't take the books to the van. And I had too much on my plate. One thing led to another and eventually I had more on my plate than I could possibly carry.

As a result of my choices - getting in a hurry and putting too much on my plate - I suffered some negative consequences. Others expressed sympathy as they walked past while I tried to salvage some of my lunch. "That's too bad," one stranger said, as he passed by on the other side. I was tempted to blame others. "Why give out such small, flimsy plates when so much food is available?"

Ultimately, I had to clean up the mess. That is why I am going to slow down and downsize my plate a bit next time. All of us would avoid many negative consequences if we slowed down a bit and rationed what we put on the plate of our life.

No potato salad for me,  
Earl

### Reaching the World with the Heart of Christ

By Kurt Linstead

Much has been said over the last few months about all of the new construction that has taken place. I wanted instead to talk about how this expansion has enhanced our ability to fulfill our mission to be a caring family and reach the world for Christ. We wanted to expand our walls in order to allow us to minister to more people, both current and prospective members. Ministry is basically about meeting needs. I started to think about the things people need in order to feel welcome and a part of a church.

A visitor needs friendly faces and church information. They need small groups so they can get to know people and develop friendships. Parents need for their kids to feel comfortable and welcome, a safe place to get Bible teaching and be with other children. Parents of youth need their kids to have a place where they fit in...with activities and youth focused Bible study. In addition, all people need the ability to reach out to others. We need to provide those opportunities

The question we must ask ourselves is how has the expansion enabled or enhanced our ability to meet these needs? First of all the expansion has created larger, more welcoming, entrances where people (both current members as well as guests) have a place to stop for a moment without feeling they are in the way of others. The current entrances now have information centers where guests can get church information, class locations, and directions. We now have large commons areas where everyone can make new friends and visit with old ones. I believe that our youth will also use the commons area as a gathering spot. Parents of preschoolers have a new preschool area with safety enhanced by limited access. Each classroom is attached to a bathroom so that teachers and children do not need to leave their room, which not only increases safety, it also gives them more time for interaction, activities, and Bible teaching. As a result of the expansion, I feel that members will feel more comfortable reaching out to people in the church they do not really know as well as inviting new people to come join us and hear the good news of what Jesus can do in their lives.

I would say that the new expansion has met the needs of our church and expanded our ability to reach out to others.



### New First Family



Tucker  
Parker



Darrell &  
Brondy Loyd

### USHERS / GREETERS / WELCOME CENTER

Due to the expansion we have an increased need for men, women, and youth to help as ushers, greeters, and welcome center assistants. We want to bend over backwards to make people feel welcome and help them find classes, restrooms, etc. in the church. You are an ideal candidate if you do not have small children and do not sing in the choir. Please sign up this Sunday in your class or at the welcome center.

### Vacation Bible School Need

Paper Towel Cardboard Tubes  
Please bring them to the church office.



### Oklahoma Blood Institute Blood Drive

Saturday - May 9th  
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Family Life Center

### Expanding His Reach Building Campaign



Amount Given to Date - \$ 2,616,740.31

### Sunday School Attendance

April 26

554