

## Calendar of Events

May 1	9:00a	Discovery School
May 2	6:00p	Pastor's Bible Study Children's Activities Ladies Bible Study Coaches Wives Bible Study Youth Core
May 3	6:30a 9:00a 12:00p	National Day of Prayer Breakfast Discovery School National Day of Prayer at Reagan Park
May 6	8:30a 9:30a 10:45a 6:30p	Traditional Service Bible Study Groups Contemporary Service Youth Bible Study at the Birtman's House
May 8	9:00a	Discovery School
May 9	6:00p	Pastor's Bible Study Children's Activities Ladies Bible Study Coaches Wives Bible Study Youth Core Stewardship Meeting
May 10	9:00a	Discovery School
May 13	8:30a 9:30a 10:45a 6:30p	Traditional Service Bible Study Groups Contemporary Service/Child Dedication Youth Bible Study at the Birtman's House
May 15	9:00a 6:00p	Discovery School-Last Day Westwood High School Awards Night
May 16	6:00p	Pastor's Bible Study Children's Activities Youth Core Coaches Wives Bible Study Ladies Bible Study
May 20	8:30a 9:30a 10:45a 5:00p 6:00p	Traditional Service Bible Study Groups Contemporary Service/Graduate Sunday Deacons Meeting Quarterly Conference
May 21	6:00p	Westwood Jr. High Awards Night
May 23	6:00p	Pastor's Bible Study Children's Activities Youth Core Coaches Wives Bible Study Ladies Bible Study
May 27	8:30a 9:30a 10:45a	Traditional Service Bible Study Groups Contemporary Service
May 28		Office Closed for Memorial Day
May 30	6:00p	Pastor's Bible Study Children's Activities Youth Core Coaches Wives Bible Study



First Baptist Church of Palestine  
5700 North Loop 256  
Palestine, TX 75801

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PALESTINE

MAY, 2018

# CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*Following Jesus, Making Disciples, Serving Others, Changing Lives*



**Tony Watson, Senior Pastor**

[tony@firstpalestine.org](mailto:tony@firstpalestine.org)

It's a great time to be a part of FBC Palestine! We had some great services through Passion Week, saw seven come through the waters of baptism (with one in the bullpen awaiting baptism), and are seeing multiple families visiting each week. Not to mention, our committees are rolling, and we are seeing our mission focus returning. I sense a great Spirit among us and I cannot wait to see what the future holds.

I've now been here for six months. During that time, I've come to appreciate our wonderful church staff. Skip has become a real brother and I appreciate so much his heart for this church and his work in leading our Worship and Youth ministries. Kelly is doing a fine job as our Ministry Assistant I'm thankful for her love for this church as well. Darell Hortman keeps our facilities in great shape and is always looking for ways to make us better. Linda Love's heart for children's ministry and her energy to lead that ministry is second to none. Jennifer Stricklin has a heart and a passion for our preschoolers and works hard to create a loving, Christ-like environment for them. Rachel James keeps our Discovery School as a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about Christ and an open door to our church for young families.

There are some great things coming up at FBCP. We are hosting the National Day of Prayer Breakfast for our community on Thursday, May 3rd, from 6:30-8:00 am. Our Missions Committee is planning another Service Saturday event. The Committee on Committees is preparing to present to our church two new committees in May: a Kitchen Committee, as well as a Long Range Planning Committee. Long Range Planning Committee will be charged with taking a look at our facility needs and evaluating our current Master Plan.

It's a great time to be a part of FBC Palestine!

Thankful to be your pastor,  
Tony

**Young  
ADULT**  
sunday school

2 NEW SUNDAY  
SCHOOL CLASSES  
- CHECK THEM  
OUT!

1. Young couples with no kids/Young single adults - led by Tom & Angela Witte - meets in Room 104B
2. Couples/Singles with children in preschool-elementary age - Led by Josh & Emily Wall - meets in Room 105C (Next to nursery)

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

**UNITY**

EPHESIANS 4:3  
MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY  
OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE.

**MAY 3, 2018**

#PRAY4UNITY  
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Prayer Breakfast - 6:30 -8:00 am

First Baptist Church of Palestine

Noon Prayer Gathering - 12:00-1:00 pm

City Park



**QUILT GROUP**

**MAY 17TH @ 6:00PM**



### Giving Report for March as of 4/27/18

Ministry Budget Offering:

\$32,899.09

Designated Funds Offering:

\$3,466.98

Ministry Budget Offering YTD:

\$161,493.99

Ministry Budget Exp. YTD:

\$134,094.59

Received over expenses YTD:

\$27,546.78

You can give online at:  
[www.firstpalestine.org/giving](http://www.firstpalestine.org/giving)  
or by texting the amount you  
would like to give (\$10) to  
903-638-7067



### **Skip Birtman, Youth & Worship Pastor**

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I have my moments. Disciple Now Weekend just wrapped, and now comes the big exhale. It was a great weekend of study, worship, and fellowship. The theme for the weekend was "The Pause". In a crazy, fast paced, never slows down world, we need to be reminded to stop. Sometimes we need a break. Sometimes we just need to pause. Sometimes we just need a moment. I'm not sure there is a more pertinent and fitting theme for our teenagers in 2018. This got me thinking. You might say I had a "moment" of clarity.

Moment...that word has been on my mind the last couple of days. Life is made up of moments. Moments can be fun, scary, sad, boring, hopeless, hopeful, pleasant, agonizing, and on and on. By definition, moments don't last. They are fleeting. Blink and you'll miss it. However, many times moments are pivotal. I'm sure you can look back on your life at several instances that changed the very course of your life. Times that, had you chosen a different path, you'd find yourself in a very different place today. You may even be stuck in a moment that you can't get out of.

For me, becoming a follower of Christ, becoming a husband, and becoming a dad were the most pivotal moments of my life. I look back at the day Amy and I got married, and think "this magic moment." Reading in the book of Joshua this morning, I came upon the passage where Joshua addresses the people of Israel in chapter 24. He recounts God's faithfulness to the Jews. It was and is an incredible reminder of how God is in control. It speaks to His great love for His people. In verses 14 and 15 comes the moment of truth.

"...fear the Lord and serve Him..." "...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..." I imagine Joshua's sentiments being something like this is. "God is faithful. He has been faithful, and He continues to be faithful. It's time to make a choice. When you walk away from here, you will have made your decision! What are you gonna do?" It was, without a doubt, a pivotal moment for the Jews. If you are a Christian, then you have had a moment similar to that of the one written about in Joshua. The Holy Spirit draws, and we must respond. If you've not trusted Christ, I pray that you respond as the Spirit calls on your heart.

I hope that this article is a reminder to you to stop, and reflect on the faithfulness of God. Choose today to serve Him. Maybe this is one of your moments. Don't miss it. Whether they know it or not, the world is desperate for the news of Jesus. It's our responsibility to share the message of Christ. Start today...not a moment too soon.

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Graduate Sunday  
May 20  
10:45 am  
Mark your calendars  
graduates and family.