

FIRST BAPTIST ZACHARY

2019

IN REVIEW



GATHER > GROW > GEAUX

FROM OUR PASTOR

2019 was a significant and pivotal year in the life of FBCZ. We experienced both numerical and spiritual growth. This "church report" will highlight some of what God is doing in and through FBCZ.

Let me focus on our vision strategy that was revealed in the month of August. After months of prayer, collaboration, study, and working with Chuck Lawless, we revealed to you our vision strategy for the future.

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

We exist to glorify God by proclaiming Jesus Christ and making disciples of all nations.

CHURCH CORE VALUES

1. **Word-Centered:** We value the Word of God, striving that everything we do is gospel-centered, grace-saturated, theologically driven, doctrinally sound, and biblically focused.
2. **Authentic Worship:** We value lifestyle and corporate worship that invites all people to experience God's presence and to honor Him through proclaiming His greatness.
3. **Fervent Prayer:** We value personal and corporate prayer that expresses our love for God, confesses our need for Him, and empowers us to live a God-honoring life.
4. **Biblical Community:** We value Christ-centered relationships, doing life together through personal and small-group discipleship that leads to disciple-making and life transformation for all.
5. **Sacrificial Generosity:** We value giving God our all, offering to Him our lives, time, service, and finances.
6. **Missional Living:** We value sending out all our members to live among non-believers in our city, our nation, and our world so they may see and hear the gospel.



Dr. Chuck Lawless - August 2019



Dr Les Colvin baptizing Jordan Canezaro - May 2019

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

To grow disciples of Christ, First Baptist Church will:

GATHER

To encounter God and respond to Him

GROW

Into the image and likeness of Christ

GEAUX

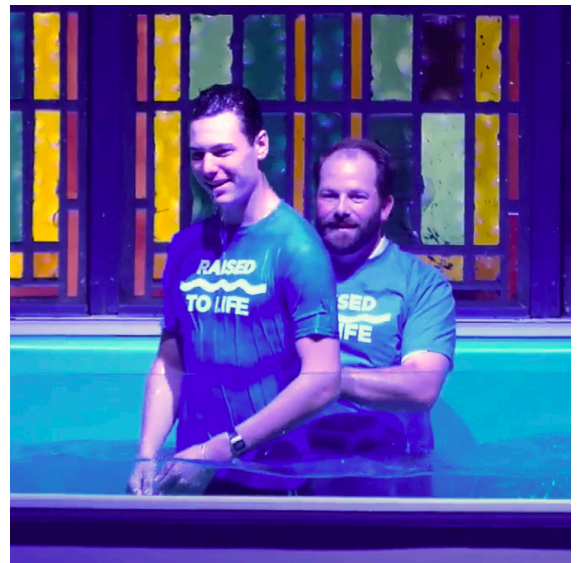
In the Spirit and proclaim the gospel



Dr Paul Ballard baptizing Bobby Ricketts - July 2019

GOALS:

1. Introduce the Mission, Core Values, and Discipleship Pathway to the church.
 2. Hire a mission's coordinator who will be most responsible for the "Geaux" component of the discipleship pathway, with the goal of creating a "sending culture" in the church.
 3. Build prayer into the life of the church.
 4. Consider ways to increase space for future growth.
 5. Create a disciple-making culture by an intentional and continued D-Group emphasis.
 6. Plan an annual evangelism training strategy.
 7. Strengthen the small group ministry by emphasizing LifeGroups.
 8. Evaluate how each organization and activity fits into the church's discipleship pathway.
9. Strategically and prayerfully consider ways to reach other ethnic groups in your community, with the goal of adopting at least one ministry/outreach in 2020.
 10. Review and update the By-laws and Constitution.
 11. Review church's progress toward these goals.



Bro Justin LeBlanc baptizing Ethan Patrick O'Brien - July 2019



Bro Chad Fletcher baptizing Natalie Fletcher - January 2020

This strategy will guide us during this hope-filled year as God brings glory to Himself through FBCZ.

For the sake of the gospel,

Paul

2019
BY THE
NUMBERS

73

New Members who came to
join in covenant with FBCZ

*BUT I DO NOT ACCOUNT
MY LIFE OF ANY VALUE
NOR AS PRECIOUS TO MYSELF,
IF ONLY I MAY FINISH MY COURSE
AND THE MINISTRY THAT I RECEIVED
FROM THE LORD JESUS,
TO TESTIFY TO THE GOSPEL
OF THE GRACE OF GOD.*

- ACTS 20:24 -

346

Kids heard the gospel at VBS

400

People heard the gospel at
the Outdoorsman Banquet

206

Children disciplined through
Upward Basketball &
Cheerleading by 32 coaches

41

Prayer Ministry Participants

151

D-Group Members

643

Average LifeGroup Attendance

53

FBCZ members participated in
3 church-led mission trips

5

Countries where FBCZ members
went on mission:
Honduras, Dominican Republic,
Bahamas, Philippines, Haiti

724

Average Worship Attendance

20

Average # viewers for weekly
Live Streaming Services

*AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT,
USE IT TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER,
AS GOOD STEWARDS
OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE
- 1 PETER 4:10 -*

\$342,254

Total Mission Giving

\$36,710

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
for North American Missions

\$73,773

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
for International Missions

\$2,372,471

Undesignated Giving for kingdom work - and we ended our fiscal year \$82,000 in the black

176

Angel Tree gifts given &
we blessed 5 of those families
with big baskets of food

1,602

Operation Christmas Child
Shoeboxes gathered

50

Thanksgiving Turkeys delivered
to the Zachary Food Pantry



The LifeGroup and Discipleship Ministry is the primary Bible teaching organization of the education ministry at First Baptist Church.

Our LifeGroups minister to approximately 1,400 members with an average attendance of approximately 665 (Aug.- Jan). We enrolled 122 new members in 2019. Presently 52 Life Groups in ages preschool through adult meet each Sunday.

The purpose of LifeGroups is to help lead people to have a strong faith in Christ through the Disciple pathway; Gather, Grow, and Geaux. We want our people to gather for Bible study and worship, grow in their faith, and geaux into the world sharing the message and love of Christ.

LifeGroups, D-Groups, and other discipleship groups are about "Doing Life Together." Our desire is to build and develop relationships with one another as we are growing and strengthening our relationship and walk with the Lord. We accomplish this through authentic Bible study, meaningful fellowship, and intentional service and ministry.



CoEd 4 LifeGroup



Adult 3 LifeGroup

Our groups support one another through prayer, encouragement, and ministry activities such as bereavement meals, hospital and home visitation, and special projects and opportunities to assist members in times of personal physical, emotional, and financial needs.

First Baptist Church also offers ongoing Bible studies for various groups such as ladies, men, and coed studies on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, D-Groups, and home Bible studies during the year. These all provide an opportunity to help our people grow in their faith.

Les Calvin



Christmas at First 2019

In 2019, in addition to leading weekly worship services, here is a list of some special times of worship that we had the privilege to be a part of:

- Good Friday service
- Easter services
- Kickoff service of Summer Worship Series in July.
- Christmas at First Night of Worship
- Children's Worship "Back to the Manger" musical
- Christmas Eve candlelight service

WORSHIP

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



Christmas at First 2019 - Jennifer Boyd



Back to the Manger Christmas Children's Choir Musical - December 2019

We had several new additions to the choir and band which we are always grateful for.

We rehearse on Wednesdays throughout the year preparing to lead in worship services and special events. In those rehearsals we rehearse the music but also talk about why we do what we do as worship leaders. We do this in order to present excellent offerings that create an atmosphere where people can

experience and bless the heart of God. It's not just about the music, it's even more about the why and Who of worship.

WORSHIP



The Children's Ministry at FBCZ partners with families to shepherd their children to become followers of Christ. To accomplish that goal we use several events and activities throughout the year.

UPWARD: This past year we had 206 children participate in our Upward basketball and cheerleading program and another 36 volunteers coaching and helping during the season. Those 206 players generally translates to about 500 people (between players, parents, and grandparents) that visit our facility each Saturday for games. It's exciting to have the platform to speak truth to that many people each Saturday, many of whom do not have church homes.



VBS 2019 - Day 1.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: For VBS this past year we were "In The Wild" as we explored God's awesome creation and goodness. We studied the Great Commission during our Missions rotation, we played games during Recreation, we worked on great crafts, we studied God's Word during Bible Study and sang during our Music rotation. We had 346 total children between birth and 6th grade registered and saw four children make decisions to accept Christ as their personal savior. With children and workers total we had 458 people involved.

KID'S CAMP: This past summer we took 47 children and 10 workers to Judson Baptist Retreat Center for KidsCamp 2019. We lost Monday to Hurricane (Barely) Barry, but quickly made up for the lost fun when we got there on Tuesday. Our Children rode horses, played Bazooka Ball, swam, participated in a challenges class, crafts, did archery and BB guns, and dug deep into God's Word during Bible study, where one child made a profession of faith. Unlike other events during the year, this was just for our FBCZ Children and we had a blast.



KidsCamp - Summer 2019

FALL FESTIVAL: November 3 (the first Sunday after Halloween) we held our annual Fall Festival. This is an activity where we invite the community to come join us and simply have a good time. Several LifeGroup classes provided activities from the trunks of their cars or

back of their pick-ups. Our desire is for this to be an event for the whole community, not just our FBCZ families, but it sure is fun for our families too. It's always hard to get an accurate number in attendance because so many of our own families never sign-in on a registration card, but we know that we had more than 400 there

Overall this past year was a good one with 11 children making professions of faith and participating in Believers Baptism with another four coming later this month, January 2020. We look forward to what 2020 holds as we plan new and exciting events to help parents shepherd their families.

Wendy Hughes

2019 was an exciting year for The Student Ministry. We were able to continue some of our newly formed traditions like Fuge and Beach Retreat. We had so much fun with Mike Romero at D-Now we invited him back for 2020. In the spring our students were able to participate in a Guy Escape or Girls Escape weekend. In the summer we served with the Zachary Food Pantry. In the fall we served in the Bahamas. 2019 offered a variety of ways for our students to Gather - Grow - Geaux!!!



D Now - Winter 2019

One of the greatest things to happen in our ministry this past year was the creation of D-Groups. In 2019 we had 10 students start out in D-Groups, now we have 20+ students reading God's word, memorizing scripture, and committing to prayer with one another each week. The fall of 2019 brought about an uptick in LifeGroup attendance as well and that has carried into 2020. We are excited about what God is doing in the lives of our students through His word and through prayer.

Last year, we were blessed by the opportunity to invest in approximately 138 students through our LifeGroups, events, and trips.

We are excited about what God is doing in the lives of our students and in His church. The Student Ministry is thankful to be a part of a church that loves and cares for the hearts of the students of Zachary.



Fuge Camp - Summer 2019

SENIOR ADULTS

FIRST BAPTIST ZACHARY



Prime Timers' Trip - Instagator - May 2019

During our 2019 monthly Prime Timers' Meetings, we enjoyed musical entertainment and information programs ranging from how to avoid scams to being entertained by an illusionist. At our annual Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon we decorated our tables with nativity scenes and had 115 people join us for lunch and for our visiting vocalist, Ben Waites.



Prime Timers' Trip - Branson, MO - March 2019

We studied Revelation together at the three-day January Bible Study, but we also left the building. Our Prime Timers enjoyed going on monthly day trips that took us from Baton Rouge to Covington, LaPlace, New Orleans, other local places - even to Mississippi. We took other day trips to enjoy Associational events geared towards senior adults like the annual Senior Adult Day at Judson Baptist Retreat Center in

near Jackson, Louisiana, the Senior Adult Luncheon at the Louisiana Baptist Convention's annual Evangelism Conference that was in Covington, and the Senior Adult Revival last fall at various local churches in our association.

Our group went on some overnight trips too - one to Branson where we saw several musical shows, "Samson" at Sight and Sound Theatre, and toured College of the Ozarks - and another trip to Memphis at Christmastime. For that one, we drove through Shelby Farm's "Starry Night" Christmas lights display, spent a morning at Graceland, shopped at Bass Pro Shops at the Pyramid, and finished the trip off with the "Singing Christmas Tree" at Bellevue Baptist Church.

Throughout the year, we had several gatherings with the goal of coming alongside our widows and widowers. Through our Ruth and Naomi Widow Ministry to new widows, we ministered to five new widows along with a continued ministry to six widows from 2018. We also had our annual Widow/Widower Valentine luncheon where we served about 65 of our widows and widowers, reminding them that FBCZ loves and cares for them. And we did a "Surviving the Holidays" seminar just before Thanksgiving where we ministered to 25 people who had experienced the heart wrenching loss of a family member get through the holiday season.



South Texas Mission Trip - October 2019



South Texas Mission - Beds - Oct 2019

2019 marked the 10th year for our annual South Texas Mission Trip. Twenty-seven folks went with us and got to experience missions in a "hands on" way. We served through construction at a mission church and fed BSM students at University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. We sewed and prepared 1,300 Christmas stockings for children. We served at a Respite Center that provides food and clothing to those immigrating to United States. We built, delivered, and set up 10 twin beds for children who did not have a place to sleep. God blessed us to be able to provide the frame, mattress, mattress cover, bedding, and pillow. And finally, through our "Books for the Border" mission effort, we provided 50 kindergarten children and their families with books and bookcases we made for them along and provided 100 additional children with books. Many people provided books, materials and resources for this trip.

On a different note, through our Recreation ministries we held our annual LifeGroup Volleyball Fellowship where nine LifeGroup teams battled for the champion title. At our annual Outdoorsman Banquet, around 400 guests enjoyed a meal, fellowship and were presented with the gospel through Brodie Swisher's presentation. During our annual Car/Truck/Motorcycle Show this past November, we showed over 100 vehicles and served hotdogs and had a blast visiting with vehicle enthusiasts.

Our Aerobics' group continues to meet twice a week and our daily walkers show up each weekday to take advantage of using the FLC to meet their health and fitness goals.

Dolci Masha

