



Members social-distanced for the Special Business Meeting.

Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Castroville

Academy postponed; Homeschool seeks Director

Setting up a new private school takes dedication, time and the cooperation of multiple people and agencies.

The FBCC Christian Academy Council and its leaders worked long hours and wrote thousands of words to communicate with the necessary people and to create the handbooks, guidelines, job descriptions, and forms necessary to open the school this fall.

But the pandemic closed many of the places they needed to contact, the lack of in-person meetings hindered communication, and other private schools in the area had registration deadlines that were before we were ready to announce costs and make commitments.

The survey conducted online showed that most people were interested in the K-4-year-old class. To open that class, the church would need an exemption from the state to prove we are teaching and are not just a daycare. The exemption form requires us to provide an evacuation place for emergencies, but the places the Council tried to contact were closed. It also required a fire inspection, and we recently received those results. A fire alarm system will need to be designed and installed.

Therefore, the Academy Council, led by Council Chair Pat Becker and Children's Minister Debra McDonel, determined in early May that it would not be possible to open the school with a director and teachers in place by this fall.

Council members unanimously agreed to postpone the opening until Fall 2021. "We want to have a first-rate school," Pat emphasized. "With the delay, we can get all the proper documentation ready, have an open house and registration in the Spring to show our facilities, and be ahead of the registration deadlines of other private schools in the area."

Those who responded to the survey have been notified of this decision and will be first in line to register next fall. The information with costs is posted on the church website and updates will be added.

Meanwhile, Jenny Kusch, who directed the Castroville Day Academy for two years, submitted a resignation letter in May, saying she was decreasing her commitments. She said she contacted all the teachers, parents and Homeschool Council members, and no one agreed to take on the volunteer duties. The Homeschool Council met via Zoom and decided to try to find a new Director and possibly reopen in Fall 2021. The Church Council agreed at its June 14 meeting. The children met on Mondays for special classes to augment their education while at home.

FBCC gradually reopening

By Ben Craver, Interim Pastor

How We Are Reopening:

Beginning on Sunday, May 31, we invited you to join us for in-person services.

- 9:00 in the chapel, for those at risk, but with a limit of 75 persons
- 10:30 in the main auditorium, for everyone, with a limit of 150
- Both services are reduced in time, to approximately 30-35 minutes.
- We are receiving an offering in designated places, but plates will not be passed.

How we are staying safe while attending worship

When you arrive, enter through the glass doors in the lobby/foyer of both locations.

Again, for your well-being and the well-being of others, we ask that you maintain social distancing standards by staying at least 6 feet from other persons.

There will be no childcare available during this time; we ask that your children sit with you in your family unit.

Masks or face-coverings must be worn upon entering and exiting the building. While you are seated for the service, you may remove your mask if you desire. Any child under 10 years of age is not required to wear a mask. We request that you use your own masks; however, we will have a limited supply available for your use.

If you are not well, or show signs of illness, or have been around those who are showing signs of illness, please remain at home and join us online through Facebook or our website.

We are sanitizing the facilities before the services in each location. In addition, sanitizing stations are available in both locations.

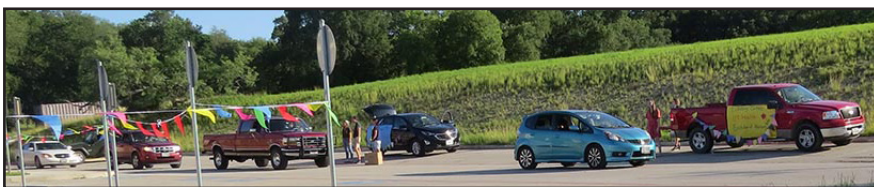
For the safety of others, we must insist that you refrain from shaking hands and hugging.

We look forward to being together again!



May 31 second service.

PARADES CELEBRATE THE YEAR



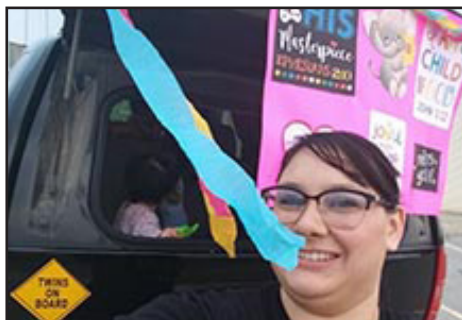
Mabry Williams & Family



*Katelyn Battros
& Family*

High School & University Grads

MDO



*Cody & Lindsay
Carnes & family*



This newsletter is the leadership's way to keep you "in the loop." To submit items, send to Ginger Carnes at gcarnes2@satx.rr.com. Deadline is the Sunday after the monthly Business Meeting. It is sent via email and is available on the church website. Printed copies are available at the Welcome Center in the Worship Center foyer.

Mailing address: First Baptist Church-Castroville, 1408 Alsace,
P.O. Box 1056, Castroville, TX 78009

Phone: 830-538-3220

Email: fbccastroville@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.fbccastroville.com

Facebook: First Baptist Church of Castroville

Instagram: fbccastroville

Blood Drive = 39 Pints



A blood drive partnership between FBC-Castroville and Vista Community Church produced 39 pints of blood on June 6.

Approximately 50 people volunteered to donate, according to Missions Minister Tina Santee, but some did not qualify after going through the health screening process.

The team from the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center commented that it was one of their more successful drives away from the center, which is located off I-10 West in San Antonio.



Pastor Search Team Update

The Pastor Search Team has been meeting weekly by Zoom, with some joining by phone. They are reviewing resumes.

Each member has received all the resumes through Google docs so each person has access to any correspondence from the candidates. As more are received by Chairman Andy Carnes, he adds them to the list so each member can stay updated.

They have received about 60 resumes and they are reviewing the top 9 now.

The job announcement has been placed on the BGCT website, George W. Truitt Seminary website, the Baptist Standard's Common Call magazine, and is on the church website. The website also includes a profile of our church and the community.



TOP ROW: Julie DeLucia, Andy Carnes, Dee Smith. CENTER: Pat Becker, Betty Holt, Bo Ohman. BOTTOM: Jacob Biediger, Bruce Pace, Claudia Williams.

Services on www.fbccastroville.com. For those of you who are continuing to stay at home on Sunday morning, you can watch the 10:30 a.m. service live on Facebook. After the service ends, the service is moved to the church website to watch anytime.

As we have moved to more online versions of our services, it has become apparent that the church needed to upgrade its technology to produce videos that can be seen and heard in various formats. At its June meeting, Church Council approved a Finance Committee request to add \$3,000 to the Worship fund for a computer; upgrading Pro-Presenter, which is the software we use to produce the slides on the screens; and to run cable to the nursery and KidsZone so teachers there can enjoy the services as they are being presented.

Newsletter. The next newsletter will be combined to include information for July and August. We're still looking for a new editor. If interested,

IN THE LOOP

please contact Communications Team Leader Ginger Carnes at gcarnes2@satx.rr.com.

Children's Ministry always needs workers, and you can sign up to be a volunteer one Sunday a month or more.

The Church also utilizes some paid Children's Department Teachers for Sunday School, AWANA and nursery duties. At its June meeting, Church Council voted to provide a minimum of two hours pay at \$10.40 an hour every time the person works.

If you are interested in being a paid worker or a volunteer, please contact Children's Minister Debra McDonel.

Watoto. The Watoto Children's Choir has been rescheduled for Jan. 10, 2021.



Building & Grounds Committee. This committee needs a chairman. If interested, contact Nominating Committee Chair Bruce Pace.

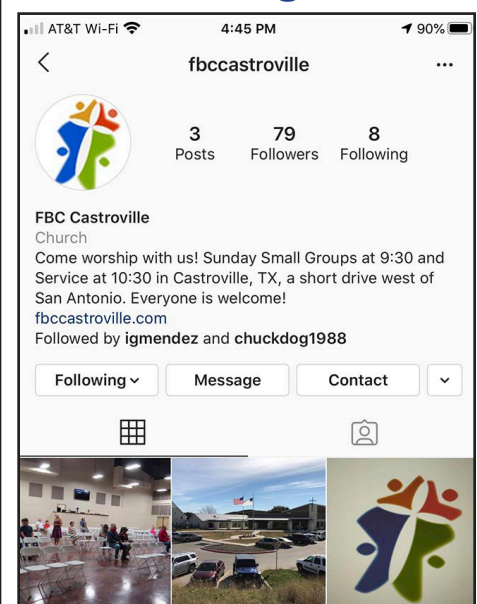
Food Pantry Needs. The Church provides food for families throughout the week who are in need. As you're shopping, please pick up some extra items and put them in the yellow bins around the church.

Missions Minister Tina Santee said the items that are especially needed are:

- canned vegetables (corn, green beans, peas)
- meats (tuna, chicken, vienna sausage)
- cans of chili and soup
- dried rice
- dried beans
- peanut butter
- jelly.

4th of July. The City of Castroville has canceled the annual 4th of July parade and festivities.

Follow Us On Instagram



Virtual VBS will soon be here!

- **When?** July 27th - July 31st
- **Where?** Comfort of your own home!
- **How to Register?** Baby - Kinder - Please send your address, a good contact phone number & the names & ages of your children to mdofbcc@yahoo.com
First grade & above - Please send your mailing address, a good contact phone number & the names & ages of your children to Childrens@fbccastroville.org

Make sure to join our Facebook group FBCC VBS! Updated information will be posted here! Watch for packet pick up dates!

This will be a fun and exciting week! Hope you join us!

Debra McDonel
Children's Minister



Emilyn Hatfield
MDO Director

