

Financial Snapshot

Year to Date:
12/31/2017

Budget Required to Date:
\$417,000.00

Budget Received to Date:
\$400,474.74

(Under) Budget
(\$16,525.26)

Nursery Volunteers

1/7 Addie & Klaire Jeffrey
1/14 Gary & Jana Lain
1/21 Jennifer & Allyson Prater
1/28 Tara Fillingim & Candice Bonds

Chili/Stew/Dessert Cook-Off

January 7th is our Annual Chili/Stew/
Dessert Cook-Off at 6:00 pm.

January 2018 Newsletter

January Birthdays

1 Cinda Shuping
Jill Bell
Jonathon Franco
2 Isaac Flores
7 Kelly Jeffery
8 Eileen Terrell
Katy Smith
10 Jim Morgan
12 Courtney Turner
15 Abraham Gonzalez
Kinzlee Gruben
16 Anita Reid
17 Bettye Lawlis
20 Grace Routon
21 Lonnie Powell
27 George Bonds
28 Hadley Carreon
31 Gretna Paige

Youth and Awana

Youth and Awana will kick back off
on Wednesday, January 10th.

Home Place Manor

Show love to our friends at
Home Place Manor on 1/14 at
3:30 p.m.

Quarterly Church Conference

4:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
5:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting
6:00 p.m. Quarterly Church Conference

Super Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 4th, is the Super Bowl! We will
not have evening worship. We encourage Mega
Group Tables to get together for fellowship.

Bring A Friend Day

Bring a friend day! March 4th we are
encouraging everyone to bring a friend to
Sunday School. Let's get our attendance to
150.

Revelations Study

March 11th we will begin a chapter by
chapter study over Revelations, the end
times. Sunday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall.

Youth Meal Schedule

1/17 Carolyn Baird, Lauri Pond, Sharon Rodgers, Gary Ford
1/24 Sheila Reed, Sue Turner, Deborah Sue Pond, Susan Powell
1/31 Tracy Dunham, Marcia Moore, Rita Warner, Margaret Morgan

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Change Service Requested



REACH FORWARD!

“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead...”

Philippians 3:13

The beginning of the New Year gives us the opportunity to reassess the past year, both in its successes and failures. It also gives us a chance to reach for greater successes or reverse the failures of the past year.

I am very much aware that in 2018 there will be many uncertain things. I also know that our best-laid plans can be crushed under the unexpected. In the words of Paul found in Philippians 3:13 we should “reach forward.” The words "reaching forward" comes from a Greek word that describes a runner stretching for the finish line. In other words, a runner that is straining every muscle to reach the finish line.

The great apostle Paul is giving a call for us to be at our very best. Let me give you three things that we should reach for (stretch our spiritual muscles for) in 2018.

First - Talk To God Hourly

Why hourly? Because the Bible says in I Thessalonians 5:17 that we should "Pray without ceasing." We should live in a constant attitude of prayer. Talking to God should be as common and normal as talking with those around you. I encourage you to talk to God all through the day.

Prayer is essential to our spiritual growth. Prayer is to the spiritual life as air is to the physical life. When we do not pray we suffocate our spiritual growth.

Second - Read The Bible Daily

If prayer is what air is to the physical realm, then reading the Bible is what food is to the physical. We starve our spiritual growth when we do not have a daily diet of God's Word. It has been said that, “A Bible that is falling apart is usually the property of someone who is not.”

When we pray we are talking to God. When we read the Bible we are letting God talk to us.

Third - Attend The Church Weekly

Maybe some would say, “You don't need to go to Church to be a Christian.” Admittedly that is true. However, you may not have to go to Church to be a Christian, but you will never be a spiritually growing Christian without attending church. The Lord commanded His people to go to Church (Hebrews 10:25). In addition to this, we miss you when you are not here!

So, stretch those spiritual muscles as we all strive for the finish line!

In Christ,
Pastor Kenny

Hello Church Family!

I can't believe it's already 2018! There is so much excitement in beginning a new year, and I'm grateful to begin 2018 with each and everyone of you!

Typically each new year begins with a set of resolutions or changes that we'd like to see happen in our lives. We didn't like the way things went in certain areas of 2017, so we are resolved to do things differently so we can get different results! While this ultimately isn't a bad thing, I want to challenge each of you to make a change this year that is far more important than making more money, eating right, or anything else you're resolved to do in 2018. I'd like to challenge you to think about one person that's here in Hamlin. Just one. Maybe you work with them, maybe you're always running into them at the grocery store, maybe they are your neighbor, maybe you see them at every sporting event here in Hamlin and you don't even know their name right now.... whatever the case is... think of this one person and make it a priority to heavily invest

yourself in their life in 2018. Get to know them, get to know their likes and dislikes, get to know what brings them joy, and get to know what they struggle with. Have them over for dinner once a week, play games with them, and spend time with them. As you seek to invest in someone and build a relationship with them look for opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

You see, people don't need health, wealth, and prosperity in 2018... they need the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They need the life and light of salvation. And we, the body of Christ, are vital in sharing this light and life with them. This is more than just inviting someone to church. This is us taking serious the call to make disciples. It's us taking on the responsibility placed upon us as believers to share the ministry of reconciliation with those who are lost and bound toward hell. This is the best and most loving thing we can do in 2018, and I'm asking each of you to join with me in it! This task is the most important thing we could resolve to do this year, and I'm excited to see what God will do through His body, reaching out and investing themselves in the lives of lost souls here in Hamlin, TX.




Grace and Peace,
Taylor Routon

“Behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.” Psalm 133:1

Unity was a word that dominated much of the conversation in 2017. It seemed to be on everyone's mind and everyone's lips, but when pressed about what we should be unified over the answers seemed to vary depending on several different factors including age, gender, length of time in church and so on. To be honest it seemed as though we were chasing something that was elusive. As a member of the pastoral staff (and I'm only speaking for myself) there were times that the pursuit of "unity" was exhausting and extremely difficult. In late January of 2017 the Lord in his perfect timing and sovereign power sent us Brother Mike Mowery to help us walk the path of transition. What a blessing he was to us. I personally learned so much from Brother Mike and his ability to handle difficult situations with grace, respect, and a calmness that can only be described as Spirit led. He helped us as a Church body narrow down just exactly what we were chasing. He listened as a good shepherd does to his flock and tried to meet their needs.

He helped us to see that despite our differences, in the end the one thing that unifies us isn't our preferences but the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our heart for the lost and our devotion to being the hands and feet of Christ. Not only here in Hamlin but to the ends of the earth. These last few months I have personally felt the tide turning and can say along with the Psalmist “Behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.” My prayer is that as FBC Hamlin begins a new calendar year and a new chapter, she would continue to walk in Christ centered unity. With that said there are plenty of things to be excited about in 2018. For me, the most exciting thing is the mission trip to Puerto Rico in July. Be on the look out for some upcoming fundraisers, as the students still need to raise around \$8,500 to be fully funded. We know that you will not only financially help us meet our goal but that you will be prayer warriors for us as well!

In Christ
Brandon Carreon

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---------|--|---|--------|--|
|  | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Care Station |
| 7 6:00 pm - Chili/Stew/Dessert Coof-Off | 8 | 9 | 10 5:00 pm - Youth 5:30 pm - Awana | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 3:30 pm - Home Place Manor | 15 | 16 | 17 5:00 pm - Youth 5:30 pm - Awana | 18 | 19 | 20 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Care Station |
| 21 4:30 pm - Finance Comm 5:00 pm - Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm - Church Conference | 22 | 23 | 24 5:00 pm - Youth 5:30 pm - Awana | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 5:00 pm - Youth 5:30 pm - Awana |  | | |