



May 2019

### *Dr. Jim's Gems*

It's that time of year again – spring has already made its presence known by full blossoms and pollen and flowers. Trust me, I am adjusting to the allergies here in South Texas. The month of May is what I call the start of the summer activities. There is National Day of Prayer, Mother's Day, Graduations and vacation planning. I used to always use May as my launch for a Sermon Series on the Family. I know with all the busy schedules of getting to the end of the school year and ready for summer, often families can be pushed aside. It isn't intentional; in fact, most of the plans we will make include the family, but while they may be the ones sparking the plans and all, actual quality time can be lost in the busyness of the events. While in the Air Force, we were always challenged to keep our families informed and when we were not "mission oriented" to make sure they knew how much we loved them and the sacrifices they made for the service member to serve in the military. I remember one time while in Utah, I was part of a rapid deployment unit; we were always gone doing something. While home one day, I took the trash out, but just as I got to the door, my oldest daughter said "Daddy, where are you going this time?" That was a wakeup call for me. I had become so driven to succeed in a career; spending inordinate amount of time trying to be the "elite soldier" that I had neglected to embrace the time with family when I was home. I guess you could say I was like Chris Kyle from the "American Sniper" and letting what I do affect who I am to my family. While that story is oriented to military, I have found the same thing can and does happen in ministry. We can get so busy being busy, that important things "fall off the plate."

Three of my favorite sections of scripture about families are Ephesians 5/6, Colossians 3/4 and Titus 2. Those passages lend themselves to all kind of practical advice for families. While in Illinois, our church was doing a strategic plan for ministry. During the process the team interviewed mayors, school superintendents and principals, along with civic leaders and businesses. The overwhelming feedback was "kids today do not have any role models for what it means to be a boy or girl." Of course, that fact drove our ministry to the church and the community. I think this is one of the most critical areas of our society right now. It seems like culture is trying to make gender identity neutral and make people all the same. God created us with specific design qualities and characteristics. Humanity should not be lumped into a "non-descript" box.

On another note, I have been busy trying to meet all our pastors and visit in their churches – it's a work in progress. Galveston Baptist Churches are doing some amazing ministries. My fear is that most of it goes unnoticed. I hope in the very near future to start a section in our newsletter that will highlight each church and its contribution to Advancing the Gospel in the 4B area.

As I draw this article to a close; let's all remember to lift each other up. Ministry is difficult at best; the enemy wants to see us defeated and demoralized – pray for each other specifically and thank you for all your prayers for me and my family!

Blessings

*Dr. Jim*





**Senior Adult Game Day  
Join us for Fun and  
Fellowship**

**Tuesday, May 7 @ 1:30 PM**

**GBA office  
1221 Cedar Dr,  
La Marque**

Bring a friend, a snack to  
share and your favorite game.

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**May By The Bay  
Adult Camp**

**May 6-9, 2019**

Reservations are still available. To  
reserve a room or for more  
information, call Jeanie at Texas  
Baptist Encampment 361-972-2717

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**Pastor/Staff Breakfast**

**Monday, May 6 @ 7:30 AM  
Kelley's Restaurant  
La Marque**



# **Congratulations to the Bible Drillers from First Baptist Church of Alta Loma!**

At First Baptist Church of Alta Loma we have always believed that Bible Drill is important. Not for the competition - that makes it fun - but for Psalm 119:11 "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

This school year, we participated again in the Texas Baptists Bible Drill Competition. We had nine 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students compete in the Children's Bible Drill at the Church level, and five 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders compete at the Youth/High School Bible Drill at the Church level. Seven of our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders qualified to compete at the State level and all five of our Youth/High School students qualified to move on to the Regional level!

Five 4th - 6th grade students competed in the Children's State Bible Drill on Saturday, April 12th at Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston. The students pictured left to right) won the following awards:  
Tristen Burkhardt - State Winner "Good,"  
Avri Fockelmann - State Winner "Good"  
Nate Graschel - State Winner "Perfect"  
Joshua Mahoney - State Winner "Perfect"  
Benjamin Newton - State Winner "Excellent"



*Not pictured: Kaimi and Ellie Evans*

Two youth students competed in the Regional Bible Drill. The students pictured (from left to right) won the following awards:

Caleb Dykes - Regional Winner "Good"  
Collin Dykes - Regional Winner "Good"



Three High School students competed in the Regional Bible Drill. The students pictured (from left to right) won the following awards:

Ryan Dykes - Regional Winner "Excellent"  
Julie Mahoney - Regional Winner "Excellent"  
Sarah Nelson - Regional Winner "Outstanding"  
Sarah also qualified to compete at the State High School Bible Drill in May



We are so proud of all 14 participants and are looking forward to growing next school year. If you have any questions about getting started, or want to know how to participate in the Association Drill with us, please feel free to contact our church office at 409-925-3505.



## *You're Invited!!!*

Ladies From All Churches  
Please join us for "Women on Mission"

Tuesday, May 14, 11:30 – 12:30 AM

GBA Office  
1221 Cedar Dr, La Marque  
Bring a friend and a snack



Following the meeting, Brenda Chavers, Heritage Park Baptist, will be giving a free art lesson teaching us to paint daisies. Please let us know if you plan to stay for the class so we can have enough art supplies.



### **Valley Mission/Christmas Stocking Ministry Workday, May 15 @ 9:30 AM**

Items being collected include crayons, color books, small balls and toys, Barbie size dolls and clothes, matchbox size cars, small stuffed animals, play doh, jump ropes, yoyos, girls jewelry, hair ties, soap and wash cloths.

Joy Bags for Teenagers include toiletries, combs and brushes, nail polish, hair accessories, journals, scarfs, bandanas, gloves, beanie type hats, socks, playing cards, ear buds and small games.

We will be taking stockings to Valley Baptist Mission Center, two small churches located in Camargo, Mexico and possibly an orphanage across the border, we are expecting a list of their needs soon. Items can be brought by the office any time or to the work days. I am in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; and I can be reached by phone at 409-996-8689.

We will be working on the purses again this week so bring your decorations and glue gun.

Bring your favorite salad or snack and join us.

Thanks  
Caroline

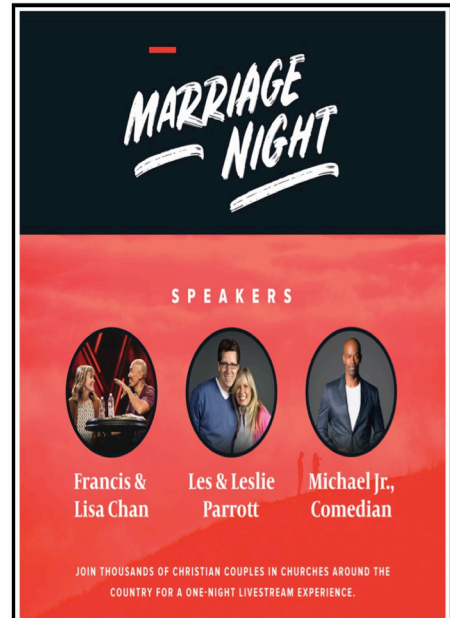
## **WMU Annual Spring Gathering and Salad Supper**

Tuesday, May 21 @ 6:30 PM

College View Baptist Church  
8622 Monticello, Texas City

Guest Speaker  
Eddy Hallock,  
Missionary Adoption Program

Bring your favorite salad, a friend and a donation to help buy water filters for the Missionary Adoption Program in the Amazon Basin.



**MARRIAGE NIGHT**

**SPEAKERS**

Francis & Lisa Chan | Les & Leslie Parrott | Michael Jr., Comedian

JOIN THOUSANDS OF CHRISTIAN COUPLES IN CHURCHES AROUND THE COUNTRY FOR A ONE-NIGHT LIVESTREAM EXPERIENCE.

First Baptist Church of Alta Loma is registered as a host site for the first-ever Marriage Night simulcast event presented by RightNow Media, and we would love for you to join us!

**DATE:** Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

**TIME:** 6:30 pm – 10:00 pm

**LOCATION:** FBCAL Fellowship Hall

5400 Main Street, Santa Fe, TX 77510

Marriage Night is a one-night live simulcast event for married and engaged couples to laugh and learn as they hear from marriage experts and discover how to honor God through their relationship. Mark your calendar and plan to attend – it will be worth your time!

**Tickets are available for \$15 per person. Ticket prices include dinner. VISIT [MARRIAGENIGHT.ORG](http://MARRIAGENIGHT.ORG) TO REGISTER & PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!**

Please do not hesitate to call our church office at 409.925.3505 if you have any questions or need any additional information. We look forward to seeing you on May 17<sup>th</sup>!

# CHANGE FOR CHANGE IS CHANGING LIVES!



## CHANGE for CHANGE

Helping moms earn  
diapers, baby food,  
formula and clothing  
for their little ones!

A baby's life may  
depend on it!



CHANGE FOR CHANGE is a way that your members can participate in helping the Pregnancy Center change lives. The Center has baby bottles with life-affirming messages and graphics. Churches are being asked to distribute the bottles to willing members of your congregation on Mother's Day and collect them on Father's Day. Throughout that time members are asked to simply deposit their pocket change in the bottle. The proceeds from the CHANGE FOR CHANGE campaign will be used to help stock our Blessing Room with the diapers, baby wipes, consumable products, baby food and formula that the clients purchase with Baby Bucks earned through program participation.

With each diaper that is changed through the Pregnancy Center Ministry, there are hearts, minds, and lives changed as well. If you would like more information about CHANGE FOR CHANGE, or would like to find out how your Church can participate, please contact the Pregnancy Center at 409-945-2888.





## Upcoming Events

- 1 Grayson Glass Prayer Time @ noon, New Life Fellowship
- 2 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA National Day of Prayer
- 4 Sisters Who Care Annual Brunch, 11 AM, TMBC
- 5 Senior Adult Sunday
- 6 Pastor/Staff Breakfast, 7:30 AM, Kelley's La Marque
- 6-9 May By The Bay at Palacios Camp
- 8 Glass Prayer Time @ noon, New Life Fellowship
- 9 GBA Prayer Time @ 9:30 AM. GBA Office Admin Team Meeting @ 1:30 PM, GBA
- 12 Mother's Day
- 14 Women on Missions @ 11:30 AM, GBA Sr. Adult Game Day @ 1:30 PM, GBA Sisters Who Care @ 6 PM, TMBC
- 15 Grayson Glass Prayer Time @ noon, New Life
- 16 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA Office
- 21 WMU Spring Gathering & Salad Supper, College View
- 22 Grayson Glass Prayer Time @ noon, New Life
- 23 GBA Prayer Time @ 9:30 AM, GBA Office
- 27 Memorial Day, Office Closed
- 28 WMU Leadership Meeting @ 6 PM, Northside
- 29 Grayson Glass Prayer Time @ noon, New Life
- 30 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA

### June

- 3 Pastor/Staff Breakfast
- 8 Hispanic Fellowship, El Salvador
- 11-12 SBC Convention, Birmingham
- 16 Father's Day

### JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Admin Team Meeting
- 15 Executive Board, noon, Highlands
- 14-21 Glass Missions Week of Prayer



### FREE BOOKS!

We still have lots of great books, CDs and Hymnals to share with our churches. You are welcome to come browse and take what you want.



*Impacting Churches to  
Impact the Kingdom*