



FSBC *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH
APRIL 2022

Operation Christmas Child

A new month means new items to collect for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes that we pack in November. We are focusing on hygiene items. Also, you can pack your own box anytime of the year. Just take a box and brochure from the table in the foyer, pack it, and bring it back. You can also pack one online at www.samaritanspurse.org/buildabox. Below is a story from Central Asia.

The Lord Loves His Enemies

In a small town on the plains of Central Asia, most people are hostile to the small group of Christians living among them. Though these courageous believers are continually harassed, they faithfully persevere.

Two Christian women, Aigul* and Dinara*, were meeting regularly to pray for their town. Persecution flared up when Aigul's mother died.

"Local leaders did not want to give us a burial site in the cemetery," she said. "They treated us like something filthy or abominable. That group came and threatened me. They wanted to stone me."

But the presence of Christ in Aigul showed clearly in her response: "I forgave them all," she said. "I love them. They just do not know Jesus."

Choosing to Love

Despite Aigul's loving and peaceful attitude, the community remained hostile. This stirred up fear in the local Christians who soon stopped coming to church. In desperation, Aigul and Dinara contacted a pastor in a nearby area and asked him to come and help their village. This pastor, in turn, rallied other pastors to pray and fast for this hurting community.

OCC Collection Items

Items to collect for
April:

Hygiene items

Toothbrushes

Floss

Combs/brushes

Bar soap

Wash clothes

Hair bands,

*headbands, clips,
etc.*

Nail clippers

Stick deodorant

Non liquid lip balm

Adhesive bandages

*Compact mirror (ones
that fold)*

*Washable/reusable
menstrual pads*

Operation Christmas Child continued

God heard their pleas and responded in a way that they'd been requesting for years. Aigul had heard of Operation Christmas Child four years earlier and often prayed, "Lord, we have so many needy children here. There are poor and disabled children who never leave their homes and do not have toys." She knocked faithfully on heaven's door and waited for an answer that would bless her village.

"I was so excited," said Aigul, "when Dinara called me to say that we are going to have some shoebox gifts to distribute!"

Bringing Gifts and the Gospel

One of the pastors who had been praying for this town, a man named Ruslan,* felt that God wanted him to be part of bringing gift-filled shoeboxes and the message of the Gospel to this place. When he contacted Aigul, they began praying together and planning some Operation Christmas Child outreach events for her area. After about a month, he organized an expedition that included three off-road vehicles packed full

with eight people and 1,000 shoebox gifts. The entourage traveled 10 hours to Aigul's community.

When they arrived, Ruslan said to an official, "We are [part of] the Church and have come to share the love of God with children." He also mentioned that they were Aigul's friends who wanted to support the local congregation.

To their surprise, the official warmly welcomed them and gave them permission to hold outreach events at various locations throughout the region.

This Time, No Opposition to the Gospel

Ruslan had memorized a presentation of the Gospel in the local language and freely shared it with the children and their parents who listened in. Most paid close attention to the Word of God in part because Ruslan illustrated his message with colorful posters supplied by Samaritan's Purse.

When it came time to surprise the children with shoebox gifts, they

were delighted. The boys and girls had never received such gifts before!

"His amazing love reaches out to the ends of the earth!"

Over the course of a single day, the team visited several schools throughout the region, with the message of the Gospel tangibly expressed through shoebox gifts. At each of these outreach events when Ruslan mentioned that Jesus is the Son of God, he met no opposition!

Ruslan said, "The Lord loves even His enemies and He is able to win them with His amazing love that reaches out to the ends of the earth!" Please pray that these Gospel seeds sown in faith will yield a bountiful harvest. *Send a shoebox gift to children in hard-to-reach places like this—[Build a Shoebox Online!](#)*

Thanks!

Karen Leibbrandt

Youth

Spring!!! It's been a long winter but seeing more green and feeling the sun's warmth helps us know the end is near. Just like in life. Sometimes we feel winter will never end but God in His Grace tells us--this too shall pass.

With Spring upon us, SuperSummer is coming soon! Please see camp information on the back page of this newsletter, and get your student signed up soon. We will be discussing fundraisers to help defray the cost. You will need to submit \$20 per student in order to reserve their spot. Please give a check, money

order, or cash to the church clearly marked that it is for your student's camp deposit.

We will finish up the Wednesday night youth group on May 11th. We will have some summertime activities so be watching for more details!!!

Please encourage your student to join us on Sunday mornings. We are still studying the Epistles and learning a lot about life and God through each chapter.

Please be praying for the youth and leaders! As we welcome Dylan Davis as the youth intern, we look

forward to what God is going to do in the youth. We are also very aware of Satan not liking it! We would greatly appreciate your prayers for a hedge of protection over all of us .

Many blessings church family!!! I love you!!!

Lisa Crook

Pastor's Pen



Resurrection and Recovery

Love You Church! Happy Resurrection Church!
From John 21 after Mary Magdalene discovers the tomb of Jesus is empty:

¹¹ But Mary stood outside the tomb, crying. As she was

crying, she stooped to look into the tomb.

¹² She saw two angels in white sitting where Jesus's body had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"Because they've taken away my Lord," she told them, "and I don't know where they've put him."

¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus. ¹⁵ "Woman," Jesus said to her, "why are you crying? Who is it that you're seeking?"

Supposing he was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you've carried him away, tell me where you've put him, and I will take him away."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Turning around, she said to him in Aramaic, "*Rabboni!*"—which means "Teacher."

¹⁷ "Don't cling to me," Jesus told her, "since I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them what he had said to her.

There are two resurrections testified to in this passage. The first is obvious. Jesus was totally, physically dead for three days and on this glorious Sunday morning He lives again! This is our chief hope! We, too are inheritors of life after death! The

resurrection is ours! Oh Praise His Glorious Name! But this is not the second resurrection testified to here. Ours is only here through faith and reflection as revealed in the apostles' writings.

The other resurrection testified to in this passage is that of Mary Magdalene. She had been raised to spiritual life from spiritual death. Her testimony is in the explanation for her crying: "Because they have taken away my Lord." "My Lord." Mary's emotional turmoil along with giving Him this title demonstrate the deep faith and relationship she had in Jesus. And for good reason. He had changed her life!

Mary Magdalene had lived a life of spiritual deadness. She spent many of her years in spiritual hell, literally, as a captive to Satan's army. How do I know? Luke refers to her as the one who had seven demons cast out of her (Luke 8:2-3). Seven demons! What a grip Satan had on her life! Have you ever wondered what having seven demons would be like? Oh, the torture! The anguish! The stress! The brokenness and deadness!

I wonder what influence this team of demons were having on her. Demons are often associated with specific struggles in life that gain a foothold in us and succumb us to eventual control over our lives. Did she live with a demon of alcoholism? A demon of abuse? A demon of drugs? A demon of depression? A demon of codependency? A demon of sexual addiction? (Early traditions named her as the prostitute who had dried Jesus' feet with her hair.) Perhaps she had a demon of bitterness, or power and influence, or skepticism, or fear, or hatred toward God. Perhaps she had a few of these or others in combination. In other words, not likely was she dealing with seven demons of the same influence or struggle but seven different tortures to her soul, psyche, and life. She was truly a troubled woman! She was tortured, lost, dead in her sins which invited these demons to influence then control her life.

But something changed. Somewhere along her way, her path crossed Jesus' and He changed her life. He cast out her demons. She saw His power and kindness and she believed in Him. He saved her. He gave her new life. Her old life was dead and gone and new life had come. She was a new creation that no longer would be tormented by the demons. Their presence in her life was removed by the power of the Son of God! She was alive again, free almost as she was long ago before she sinned and the demons began taking her life away from her. But this new life was much better! This one once imprisoned was now free! This one once tortured was now delivered. This one once broken was now healed. This one once dead was now completely,

abundantly, forever alive!

She became a devoted follower of Jesus. She exemplified what Jesus said about the woman some have said was her: "He who is forgiven little loves little, he who is forgiven much loves much." She was one of the people Luke named as underwriting the ministry of Jesus and the disciples. She is the only one in all four gospels named to have been at the death, burial, and resurrection of her Lord. And her testimony in our passage of "my Lord" carries grief because the one who delivered her seemed to be gone forever. But, oh the glorious ring in her ears and soul as He called her name: "Mary." All her hope was restored! No more empty loneliness! No more barriers of death! Jesus is alive and hers forevermore!

No wonder she went running off to tell the disciples that the victory continues!

Mary's bondage to multiple demons is paralleled in the experience of many who have suffered abuse and sought escape in multiple addictions. If Jesus could deliver her from the power of seven demons, he can set us free from multiple compulsions. Many who suffer chemical and sexual addictions are trying to escape the pain of childhood abuse. Many are themselves the children of alcoholics or addicts. The deeper our bondage, the greater will be our gratitude for God's grace. This equips us, like Mary with a story and dedication to Jesus that many other disciples lack. The pain of Mary's past kept her close to Jesus even when others deserted him.

Celebrate Recovery is for both the before and after experiences. It is for both the dead and alive.

Beginning May 3, those still being overcome by Satan's trappings can come and begin the steps to deliverance from hurts, habits, or hang-ups. Those who have been made alive by Him can come and celebrate the recovery Christ has brought to them so that they can testify to the resurrection of their own lives that others may be encouraged to trust Him for their own resurrection.

Won't you join us?

Pastor David Crook

Fellowship

The Fellowship team is looking for workers on April 30th & May 7th to paint the Fellowship hall. The team will provide lunch both days.

GriefShare

A new session of GriefShare begins March 24th!
Thursdays 6:30 pm

Easter

April 17th is Resurrection Sunday. We meet at the Bandshell first for a **7:00 am** Sunrise Service. We'll have coffee and hot chocolate back at the Church with a **9:00 am** Potluck Breakfast. The Fellowship team is preparing sausage, bacon and pancakes. Please bring breakfast casseroles, rolls or fruit. We **will not meet for Sunday School**, but will have our **worship service at 10:30 am**. There will be an egg hunt for our Nursery age and Children's group at **10:30** during the worship service. The egg hunt will be on the playground on the south side of the church, or in the youth room in case of bad weather.

Outreach

Outreach will be meeting at 10:30 am on April 23rd in the Fellowship hall to pack food boxes. We would love to have you if you would like to help. Distribution will be from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. There are food shopping lists available above the Outreach food Wagon.

Keep an eye out for upcoming Outreach events.

Butler Homeless Initiative monthly needs list for April will be available on the foyer table soon.

Thank you for your donations; we couldn't do this without you!

Janna Davis

The Deacon's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The promise of Spring is in the air. Warmer days are becoming more frequent and there are signs of new life emerging, with cool season grass lawns starting to green up and tulip bulbs sending their shoots up from the ground. We're reminded when we see signs of new life that our Savior Jesus Christ, through his redemptive work on the cross, has promised us eternal life and hope. During this transition to a new season, I am also reminded that Easter is just around the corner. Read further in this month's newsletter to find more information about Easter sunrise service. It's always a tremendous celebration in the life of our church family.

With the mention of family, the deacon body is looking forward to sharing the deacon family list in the next couple of months. For those of you who may have missed the last "Deacon's Corner", it is the intent of the deacon body to assign both FSBC members and regular attenders to a deacon. Those assigned to a particular deacon's "family" would then have a first contact in times of need. Remember, at the heart of each deacon's calling is the desire to serve. We assist the Pastor as he shepherds the flock. As deacons work with their families and become better acquainted with them, individuals and families feel at liberty to call upon their deacon for prayer or other assistance in time of need. As our church family grows, this will help ensure that everyone feels that he or she has a "go to" person when a need arises. Starting this month and continuing for the next few newsletters, a different deacon profile will be featured to help you become more familiar with the deacons and their role within the church. John Brickley's story is our feature for this month.

Rod Luehrs

Hello, fellow church members and friends.

My name is John Brickley and I have been allowed the privilege to serve as your deacon here at First Southern Baptist Church for a number of years now. First of all, let me say that it has been an honor to serve this wonderful body of believers, and I continue to be overwhelmed with gratitude for each one of you as we "travel this sod!"

I gave my heart to Christ when I was thirteen at a Rocky Freeman crusade at First Baptist Church here in El Dorado. I was blessed to have parents that took me to church each Sunday and taught me morals, hard work, and a wholesome view of God.

I married my beautiful wife, Christine, in 1981. We began having children two years later, but I couldn't get her to stop having them! Eight children later, four boys and four girls, we began having grandchildren. Christine and I just found out that our thirtieth grandchild is on the way!! That is definitely a quiver full . . .

My prayer for our Church body is for maturity and strong faith to grow this coming year. For those who are mature in the Lord, we need to put wheels to our faith and move in the leading of the Spirit. For those who are struggling and are immature, we need to see them move on to the meat of the gospel and find out how good God is and how much He can be trusted.

I love being a part of the Southern Baptist denomination—certainly not a perfect group, but one that has been committed throughout my lifetime to scripture, holiness, and presenting the gospel to everyone, regardless of that individual's station in life.

Again, thank you for the honor to serve you, and "Thanks for the memories!"
God bless us until we attain His Kingdom.

John Brickley

Celebrate Recovery!

This Christ-centered, 12-step recovery ministry is for every

☉Hurt ☉Habit ☉Hang-up

Target whatever holds you back from being all God wants you to be!

Every Tuesday Night at 6:30 pm

Beginning May 3, 2022

First Southern Baptist Church

200 Oil Hill Rd

APRIL 2022

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	4 Ulala Prewit, Tom & Vicki Edwards 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	5 Donna Gragg, Phil & Karen Drake	6 6:30 pm Bible Study for all ages	7 6:30 pm GriefShare	8	9 Karley Faudere
10 2 pm "A-Team" 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	12 Grady Rumsey	13 6:30 pm Bible Study for all ages	14 Newsletter articles and dates due 6:30 pm GriefShare	15 Jessica Hayes, Phil & Karen Drake	16
17 Easter Sunday 7:00 am Sunrise Services, 9:00 am Potluck Breakfast, 10:30 am Worship Services & Children's Easter Egg Hunt	18 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	19	20 6:30 pm Bible Study for all ages	21 6:30 pm GriefShare	22	23 10 am Pack Food Boxes 11 am Distribute Food Boxes
24 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	25 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	26	27 6:30 pm Bible Study for all ages	28 Johnie & Donna Gragg 5:30 pm Facilities Mtg 6:30 pm GriefShare	29	30 Cynda Coats Paint the Fellowship Hall

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

4th—Ulala Prewit, Tom & Vicki Edwards
5th—Donna Gragg, Phil & Karen Drake
9th—Karley Faudere
12th—Grady Rumsey
15th—Jessica Hayes, Phil & Karen Drake
28th—Johnie & Donna Gragg
30th—Cynda Coats

April Events

5:00 pm Sunday Nights Women's Bible Study (**NONE ON EASTER**)
Monday Nights 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting
Wednesday nights 6:30 Bible Study for all ages
Thursday nights 6:30 GriefShare
10th—2 pm A-Team
14th—Newsletter articles and dates due
17th—7:00 am Sunrise Services, 9:00 am Breakfast, 10:30am Worship Services & Children's Easter Egg Hunt
23rd—10 am Pack Food Boxes, 11 am Distribute Food Boxes
28th—5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting
30th—Paint the Fellowship Hall

MAY 2022

1 Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	2 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	3 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	4	5 6:30 pm GriefShare	6	7 Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes Paint the Fellowship Hall
8 MOTHER'S DAY	9 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	10 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	11 Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill Last day for Children & Youth programs	12 6:30 pm GriefShare	13	14
15 Graduation Sunday Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	16 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	17 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	18 Joe Reinert	19 Zach Thomas, Zara Thomas 6:30 pm GriefShare	20 Nancy Wright	21
22 Jerry Dewitt 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	23 Terry Stephens 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	24 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	25 Ashleigh Frye	26 5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting 6:30 pm GriefShare	27 David and Lisa Crook	28
29 Mackenzie Boender 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study	30 Memorial Day Julie Hill 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	31 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	1	2 6:30 pm Griefshare	3 Kendall Lemaster	4 Madylanne Wint

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st—Jackie Jackson, Zebediah Hill
7th—Vicki Edwards, Steve Rhodes
11th—Glenna Wise, Jessica Gill
15th—Joe Leibbrandt, Pat Leibbrandt
18th—Joe Reinert
19th—Zach Thomas, Zara Thomas
20th—Nancy Wright
22nd—Jerry Dewitt
23rd—Terry Stephens
25th—Ashleigh Frye
27th—David and Lisa Crook
29th—Mackenzie Boender
30th—Julie Hill

May Events

5:00 Sunday Nights Women's Bible Study
Monday Nights 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting
Tuesday Nights 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery
Wednesday Nights 6:30 pm Bible studies for Adult, Youth and Children
Thursday Nights 6:30 pm GriefShare
7th—Paint the Fellowship Hall
8th—MOTHER'S DAY
11th—Last day for Children & Youth programs (summer break)
15th—Graduation Sunday
15th—Newsletter articles and dates due
18th—Last Day of School El Dorado
26th—5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting
30th—Memorial Day

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters	Date (Wed nights)	Bus MONITOR (Steve R. Driver)
3/27	Deb & Jackie	None	Dianna S., Gloria T.	Deb, Ulala, Penny	3/30	Cory
4/3	Sandy & Dianna	Reinert	John B., Mary Lou	Rod, Laura, Johnie	4/6	Cory
4/10	Steve & Allison	Reinert	Kat H., Joe R.	Rod, Diane, Susan	4/13	Cory
4/17	Deb & Jackie	Reinert	Janna D., Hope B.	Rod, Glenna, Shawn	4/20	Cory
4/24	Sandy & Dianna	None	Glenna W., Donna G	Rod, Ulala, Penny	4/27	Cory
5/1	Steve & Allison	Brickley	Deb R., Hannah B.	Johnie, Laura, Deb	5/4	Cory
5/8	Deb & Jackie	Brickley	Johnie G., Allison A.	Johnie, Diane, Susan	5/11	Cory
5/15	Sandy & Dianna	Brickley	John B., Julie H.	Johnie, Glenna, Shawn	5/18	NO BUS
5/22	Steve & Allison	Brickley	Steve R., Cindy R.	Johnie, Ulala, Penny	5/25	NO BUS
5/29	Deb & Allison	Brickley	Rod L., Keith A	Johnie, Laura, Rod	6/1	NO BUS

How campers in your group register:

Parents/campers and sponsors will **enter their own registrations online** from 3/1/2022 until midnight June 3, 2022. **On 3/1/2022 the link below became active.**

- Please do not use the kncsbevents.org site. Campers need to register for Super Summer by using the link provided below. This takes you straight to the camper registration form for our group.
- You will need both the link and the Group ID below. Without this information, you cannot register.

Enter camper information

at this link: knscbevents.org/sscamper

Our Group ID is: W415132

After entering your registration details, you will be automatically taken to the online Challenge Course Agreement. This is a legal document and must be completed by an adult camper or the Parent/guardian of a minor.

- When you register, you will receive a detailed confirmation email, and your leader will receive an email telling them a camper has added their details to the group.
- Register by May 8th to insure your spot!

Thank you for entrusting your students to us!!!

Lisa Crook