

ABC NEWSLETTER

Alsbury Baptist Church - Burlison, Texas

Vol. IV N^o. 9

www.alsburybaptist.com

September, 2010

Sunday Schedule:

8:00 - Early Worship
9:15 - Midmorning Worship
10:30 - Late Worship

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Children's Church is offered during the 9:15 hour. Children small groups meet at the 9:15 and 10:30 hours. Youth small groups meet during the 10:30 hour. Adult small group bible studies are offered during the 9:15 and 10:30 hours.
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Church Staff

Scott Sharman
Senior Pastor

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Gene Longley
Pastor of Children

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Brian Jennings
Pastor of Youth

•
Brock DeWald
Pastor of Worship

•
Marty Strayhorn
Pastor of Discipleship

•
Brenda Longley
Ministry Assistant

•
Kendra Cox
Financial Secretary

•
Summer Garcia
Mother's Day Out Director

Scott's Thoughts

The summer months came to a dynamic close as we shared in the joy of several baptisms and witnessed continued growth in all areas of our ministry together. Now that school is back in session and family travels are drawing to a close we should continue to see significant participation by many in this amazing church family called Alsbury.

Two Sundays ago I mentioned the possibility of a teaching series directed by questions from the congregation. We all have questions concerning the lives we live; questions about what the Bible has to say as we strive to live in the abundance Jesus promised. A teaching series directly addressing our questions and concerns could be very helpful.

Within hours of that Sunday's services I received two very specific questions that provided the subject

we explored this past Sunday. Through the month of September and leading to our all-church emphasis of every generation involved in our ministry, we will continue to address questions from the congregation.

You can submit a question by email at scottsharman@sbcglobal.net or by text message at 817-917-7130. I can't promise that every question will be addressed in a Sunday message. We may be able to blend several questions into one message. I do believe this series has the potential to "scratch what itches," so to speak.

No subject is off limits. No question is too simple or too difficult. I will protect the privacy of the one who submits the question. So, take a few minutes to submit whatever it is that is on your mind.

I look forward to seeing you this week at Alsbury!

The time for all midweek evening activities has changed! Remember, Wednesday ministry now takes place at 6:30!

The ABC's of ABC

The next ABC's of ABC, a brief presentation of the basics of Alsbury church membership, will be offered on Sunday, September 19, following morning activities. A complimentary lunch will be served and Scott Sharman will share the history, mission, and vision of Alsbury. Reserve a place for your family by completing a tear-a-way slip from Sunday's worship bulletin.

THE WORSHIP CONNECTION

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ⁸and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. ~ 1 Peter 1:3-9 (NASB)

This past month I had the honor of doing something that would rank as one of the most difficult things I have ever done. A friend and former youth of mine died at age 21. The family requested that I officiate the memorial service. I met Chantz when he was an 8th grader. The junior high students had gathered for Pit Crew and it was my first time to attend. One of the things that struck me about him was how he drew people to himself. He was clearly the "cool one". His friends all say he was great at being a friend. He showed compassion wherever he could. Sometimes that meant toward people while other times that was directed at the stray animals he passed on the streets. Over the years Chantz grew to be my friend, and I got to see into that compassion, and amazing humor.

He played heavy metal guitar riffs with our youth worship team and stayed permanently bothered with me that I kept turning his amp down. Yet, in the music is where we connected. I remember countless conversations we had about what would make the band better. I remember how his eyes lit up the night I gave him a mic to sing on during Every Move I Make. I mostly did it because I was tired of singing that song, but he enjoyed it for sure. I remember sitting at Riverbend Retreat Center for Winter Camp and talking about the song From the Inside Out. Chantz was in one of his determined mindsets. The words and music of the song had gripped him and he wanted to learn to play it, right there on the spot.

A thousand times I've failed still your mercy remains, and should I stumble again I am caught in your grace... In my heart and my soul I give you control, consume me from the inside out Lord let justice and praise become my embrace to love you from the inside out

Chantz had his pains, struggles, and stumbles. But, in that conversation I began to sense that the promises of mercy and grace, written in that song, were very real to him. The last face to face conversation I had with Chantz I will never forget. It was after leading worship my last time for the students of Southcliff. After six years of working with

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MEETING

On Sunday, September 12, at 4 pm in the fellowship Hall, we will have a get together for all Sunday morning adult and teen teachers. We will discuss our seven week emphasis on being a multi-generational church which will start on Sunday, October 3. If you are unable to attend, please let either Scott Sharman or Marty Strayhorn know.

Chantz and all those students it was a sad time for me. Our conversation was filled with a lot of hugs, crying, and story-telling. We talked about his heart, his walk with Christ, his passion for missions ministry. We talked about his hardships and things that he had seen or done that had haunted him for a long time. Yet, all of that paled in comparison to what he would say to close our night. He talked about how for the first time he felt truly free from carrying burdens of guilt and shame, pictures of things in his mind, that forever he could not erase, were truly gone now. He told me he had surrendered it all to God, and he spoke with hope, joy, and freedom. I believe there were a lot of gifts and passions left to display in his life for Christ. His time here was powerful and worthwhile and we will all miss him as we struggle to understand. Let me tell you something that I am sure of. Death has no victory in this. It is not the end for Chantz. I know that he is with his Savior and heavenly Father giving glory to God in worship forever more. You see, Chantz found out the truth we read in scripture. That carrying his own sin and burdens is impossible. He knew that God had sent his son Jesus to take those penalties on himself, die on the cross, and raise back to life. Chantz professed that he believed that. That offer of grace and salvation is never taken away.

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. ³⁶"But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. ³⁷"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. ³⁸"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹"This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰"For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." ~ John 6:35-40 (NASB)

There is a God who loves you, so much he takes you as you are, and so much he does not leave you that way. It is not a promise of a perfect life where all pain and suffering are gone here on earth, but it is a promise of hope for the future in eternal love and life.

September need not hold any hopelessness for you! At any moment you are unsure of the love of the Father in your life, come ask me and I will set you straight.

Your brother in Christ,
Brock

Songs we worship with:

- Overcome (Desperation Band)
- Lead Me to the Cross (Brooke Fraser/Hillsong)
- Majesty (Charlie Hall)

These songs can be found at Christian bookstores, your favorite mp3 source, and heard on 94.9 KLTY.

ALS BURY STUDENTS

Teen Connect Groups Begin!

September 12

Join us every Sunday night from 5-7pm as we hang out and seek the Lord together in homes.

MIDDLE SCHOOL
meets at the Jennings house
1400 Cherokee Rose Ln

HIGH SCHOOL
meets at the Teer's house
1013 Linden

Mission Trip to Mexico: Dec 27 ~ Jan 1

\$25 deposit due Sept 19

We will also have a brief meeting September 19 after the last service in the fellowship hall to discuss fundraising.

Comedian Tim Hawkins

September 17

We will meet at the church at 6pm to go to FBC Lewisville to see Tim Hawkins. It starts at 7:30 and we will come home when its over. I bought 65 tickets and sold every one of them so its going to be a big caravan and a lot of fun!

See You At The Pole Sept 22

Join Christians all over your campus by meeting in the morning before school at your flagpole to pray. Pray for each other, your friends, teachers and students all over your school. That evening we will all meet at BHS auditorium for a "Saw You At The Pole" Rally from 6:45-8:30!

ALS BURY KIDS

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Help a family in need and make a buddy at Alsbury's Respite Night for parents of children with special needs. The next PNO event is on Saturday, September 25 from 5-8 pm. Even if you can't help as a buddy, you can help set up, clean up, or serve as a room host or hostess. Contact Keara Kirk if you would like more information. If you don't know Keara, contact Mr. Gene for an introduction!

KIDS CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Rehearsals for Alsbury's Kids Christmas Musical begin on Sunday, September 12 at 5:00 pm.

SUPER SPORTS SPECTACULAR

This fall at Church On Wednesday (COW), kids will look at one of the greatest teams in the Bible, the Apostles of Christ. We'll discover how discipline, teamwork, trust and integrity are keys to being part of God's team. Remember, COW begins at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays in Room 202.

HOT SAUCE CLEARANCE!

Support the Alsbury Kids ministry, clean out Mr. Gene's office, and enjoy a spicy addition to your table! Purchase bottles of Pepper Sauce, Jalepeno Gold Sauce, or Chipotle Sauce for \$2.50 a bottle. Proceeds will support the Alsbury Children's ministry.

"A Truly Multi-generational Church!"

This church-wide emphasis (October 3 through November 14) will utilize worship, discipleship, ministry, missions and fellowship opportunities to challenge a "rethinking" of our church culture and practice – Watch for Details! All small group leaders and teachers are urged to attend a group meeting at 4:00 on Sunday, September 12. We'll be done by 4:45!

International Missions Work

A trip to Reynosa, Mexico is being coordinated for late December, 2010. A return to Morogoro, Tanzania, Africa is planned for July, 2011. Pray about joining others from Alsbury in international missions.

Senior Adult Fellowship

Saturday, September 11, 11:00 a.m.

*Strong support of our church budget allows for continued ministry and missions to take place through Alsbury Baptist Church. As we give to the Lord **through** the Alsbury budget we make a difference both today and for many days to come.*

MONTHLY FACTS AND FIGURES

ATTENDANCE:

Ave. Sunday Small Group: 304
Ave. Weekend Worship: 400

BUDGETS:

Support Required: \$49,537
Support Received: \$48,750

Unleashing the Vision:	\$3,760
Compassion International:	\$206
Mission Support:	\$1,380
Blackberry Fellowship:	\$9,055
Iglesia Comunidad:	\$2,042
Other Financial Support:	\$6,199

ABC

Alsbury Baptist Church

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Encouraging people to know God
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Equipping people to serve God
in the Spirit's power.

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**"A TRULY
MULTI-GENERATIONAL
CHURCH!"**

This church-wide emphasis (October 2 through November 14) will utilize **worship, discipleship, ministry, missions** and **fellowship** opportunities to challenge a "rethinking" of our church culture and practice.

Starting in October!