

ABC NEWSLETTER

Alsbury Baptist Church - Burluson, Texas

Vol. V No. 2

www.alsburybaptist.com

February, 2010

Sunday Schedule:

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

Children's Church and Children small groups meet at both 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.

Church Staff

Scott Sharman
Senior Pastor

Gene Longley
Pastor of Children

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

We launched 2011 with a great deal of excitement! By any standard traditionally used for measuring the health of a church, we are off to a great start. Small group participation is rising. The Lord adds new families to our fellowship almost weekly. Baptisms take place regularly. Giving is strong. Ministry is vibrant. Continue to pray for the Lord's provision. You might just pray for His continued patience, too!

Yesterday I challenged our church family with the question, "Should we increase our commitment to a 'special-needs' ministry? The answer has been overwhelmingly positive. We seem committed to ministering to families that have received a "special-needs" diagnosis by a doctor, school diagnostician, or some other health professional.

Allow me to share a story from my personal ministry that has been an inspiration to me in terms of commitment to families dealing with the challenges of raising a child with "special needs."

Years ago, when our ministry was still quite young, an aging parent visited Alsbury with his son; a resident of one of the group homes that attend our church. After the service the father, exiting with his son, stopped to visit with me at the door. As he began to speak he became choked up. His eyes filled with tears. With his chin quivering he said, "Thanks for loving my boy." That's all he could say. That's all he

needed to say. As we hugged I said, "Thanks for trusting your son into our care."

When we minister to people living with physical or mental challenges, we are ministering to many more than just the individual. Parents, siblings, and even friends need to see our faith in action. The Lord also pays attention to our attitudes and actions.

This month we will again provide three hours of respite for parents of "special-needs" children. This wonderful ministry (February 19 from 5 to 8) is one of the easiest to participate in. Adult and youth workers will serve as "buddy" for the evening. Your job will be to make sure our children remain safe and have a great time. That's it! No lesson to prepare. No supplies to gather. Just be a friend to a little guy or gal. The children we have at PNO are not typically living with severe or profound needs. If such a need arises, we have others who will fill that role.

If you would like to help with Parents' Night Out (PNO), please contact Keara Kirk at kearakirk@sbcglobal.net. A simple background check gets you all set up to help.

You can make a difference in a family for one evening, and possibly in the Kingdom of God for all eternity!

Scott

WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST!

These people connected with Alsbury in January

Trisna Rema, by Statement (from Bangladesh)
Arial Anderson, by Baptism
Brian and Brandi Oakes (with Oliver), by Letter
Michael and Veronica Sites, by Letter
Kendall Kirk, by Baptism
Jessica Naquin, by Baptism
Jeremy and Nikki Putman (with Gavin and Zoey) by Letter

SHARE THE LOVE MOVIE NIGHT

Making plans for a Valentine’s weekend date? Bring your kids to Alsbury on Friday, February 11 from 5:30-8:30 and enjoy your big date! We’ll serve pizza and popcorn, enjoy a great movie, and play games. Please register with Mr. Gene at gene@alsburybaptist.com by Wednesday, February 9 so we can make sure we have enough food. If you would like to help out, contact Brenda at brenda@alsburybaptist.com to sign up. **Donations will go to the Longley’s adoption fund.**

WORSHIP 3.6 AND WORSHIP 1.0

As our children’s ministry expands, we are finding creative solutions to our need for more space. As part of these efforts, the Alsbury Kids Ministry has launched Worship 3.6 and Worship 1.0. Third - Sixth graders attend Worship 3.6 on Sunday mornings at 9:15. Sunday School classes for 3rd-6th Grades meet at 10:30. Worship 1.0 is aimed at Kindergarten - Second graders and features music aimed directly at our younger kids. Worship 1.0 takes place at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. K-2nd Grade Sunday School meet at 9:15.

JOIN THE ALSBURY KIDS TEAM!

Want to be part of what God is doing through the children of Alsbury? You can join the Alsbury Kids Team by serving in the preschool extended session rotation, teaching kindergarten, leading preschoolers on Wednesday evening, assisting with elementary classes, helping with Parents’ Night Out, assisting with children’s worship... the possibilities are only limited by your imagination and availability. As our ministry grows, there are more and more exciting opportunities for you to be part of meaningful ministry. Talk to Mr. Gene about how you might fit into the team!

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Help a family in need and make a buddy at Alsbury’s Respite Night for parents of children with special needs. Even if you can’t help as a buddy, you can help set up, clean up, or serve as a room host or hostess. The next PNO event will take place on Saturday, February 19 from 5:00-8:00 pm. Contact Keara Kirk on facebook for more information.

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. ²Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

We talk a lot about following God’s will for our lives. We make commitments to be ready to go where He says go, and prayerfully petition Him for that guidance and direction. We know that the Holy Spirit lives in us and acts as our conscience on spiritual decisions urging our hearts toward God honoring behavior, and it is then left up to us to follow through or to fall back into the patterns of the flesh. Yet, how do we grow in this area of our spiritual journey, what allows us to hear His leading more clearly? How do we move confidently upon His prompting? Scripture tells us that it begins with surrender, an offering of our complete self to God, our worship. When our motivations and agendas are out of the way, then His are apparent in much greater fashion. We are called to cast off the influence of the flesh, living a life that is abnormal and contradictory to the standard of the world. If our minds are to turn away from the things of this world, where does our focus go? To the face of our Father. Practically said, you will think about the things that interest you the most. Desiring to turn our affections to the God

that first loved us is our goal. As we grow in our Father and turn our attention to Him, the natural response is to develop an interest in the things He cares about.

Think about this. As you grow a friendship with someone, it is a complex interaction of learning their likes and dislikes, sacrificing personal gain and motivation to see the other person happy, and the time spent with them is mutually enjoyable. We must spend time with our Father to see similar results in that most intimate of relationships.

As we seek to follow God’s plan for Alsbury in February and beyond, let us surrender ourselves in worship, turn our attentions to Him, and give God the time he deserves in our relationship with Him. May we hear His voice above all other sounds, even if He chooses to whisper!

Your brother in Christ,
Brock

- Songs we worship with:
- Stay Amazed (Gateway Worship)
 - More Than Amazing (Lincoln Brewster)
 - God is With Us Now (Gateway Worship)

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

ALSBURY STUDENTS

Things are looking good here at Alsbury Baptist Church and the youth ministry is no exception. Our Storm Disciple Now Weekend may have been the best ever for us. Storm is a community wide event that centers around a worship conference. Numerous local churches were involved totaling around 800 students. Each church does their own thing apart from the conference and then comes together for worship and teaching. Billy Beacham was our speaker and he did a fantastic job connecting the message to our students. The theme this year was Connections. It was all about our connection with the Father and our relationships with one another. As the weekend unfolded, our relationships were strengthened in a powerful way. Our students did a fantastic job of loving on one another and including everyone. The result is a unity that we have yet to experience and it is awesome! I look forward to see how God will build on this and use what the students gained at Storm. It is clear that God was moving long before the weekend and the Lord is drawing students to himself. The result is that Alsbury Teen Ministry is growing and the need is growing with it. If you are looking for a place to serve, there may be a place for you here in youth ministry!

Parents' Night Out Saturday, February 19, 5 to 8

This month our ministry to families with special-needs children takes place on Saturday, February 19 from 5 to 8. Parents get much-needed respite while their children enjoy three hours of recreation and playtime with new friends. It is our hope that we will provide parents who rarely get the opportunity to celebrate Valentine's with a date night! This is a great place for meaningful ministry! Contact Keara Kirk at kearakirk@sbcglobal.net for information. You can enroll your children or you can commit to serve! You'll be glad you did!

ALSBURY EYES AND EARS

Every Sunday a team of watchmen keep an eye on the church property, keeping our people safe as they gather for worship and discipleship. Jim Francisco is looking for a few new team members. You can serve on a rotation basis. Your job is simply to be the eyes and ears of the Alsbury family. Contact Jim at shooting40@hotmail.com

Alsbury Cookbook Production

Tara Torres is coordinating the production of an Alsbury Cookbook. Send some of your favorite recipes to Alsburycookbook@hotmail.com. The deadline for recipes to be sent is March 20.

Our consistent support of our church budget allows for continued ministry and missions through Alsbury Baptist Church. As we give to the Lord through the Alsbury budget we make a difference both today and for generations to come.

MONTHLY FACTS AND FIGURES - JANUARY

ATTENDANCE:

Ave. Sunday Small Group: 287
Ave. Weekend Worship: 409

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BUDGETS:

Support Required: \$49,950
Support Received: \$51,517

Unleashing the Vision:	\$7,668
Compassion International:	\$289
Various Mission Support:	\$1,773
Blackberry Fellowship:	\$3,294
Iglesia Comunidad:	\$1,737
Other Designated Support:	\$8,477

2011 Ladies Retreat

Save the Date for the 2011 Ladies Retreat. April 29-30, 2011. More Details to come.

The 2011 Alsbury Bass Classic Begins



Saturday morning, February 19, we'll fish the unseasonably warm waters of Squaw Creek Lake! This is a first for the Alsbury Bass Classic! The chance of catching some serious fish is great. The chance for a good time is even greater! Contact David Baird david.baird@appliedehs.com or Scott Sharman scottsharman@sbcglobal.net to commit to bring a boat or to request a back seat for February 19!

Men's 2011 Wild Game Banquet

Sunday, February 27

We'll meet at Charlie Mitchell's Itasca property at 4:00 for some clay target shotgun shooting and then share a meal of meat and potatoes (and dessert) afterwards. We'll also have a devotional time as part of the evening meal. We'll wrap up by 8:00. Dinner menu includes grilled duck, duck gumbo, deer chili, grilled pheasant, deer sausage, and more! Contact David Baird david.baird@appliedehs.com or Scott Sharman scottsharman@sbcglobal.net to reserve a plate! Bring a box or two of twenty gauge shotgun shells, size 9 shot, as well! The cheapest shells you can find will be fine!

ABC

Alsbury Baptist Church

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through personal faith in Christ.
Equipping people to serve God
in the Spirit's power.

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Your Chance To Be A Loser!

Losers are winners with First Place 4 Health, a Christ-centered health and weight-loss program!

Orientation Meeting: Sunday, February 13th at 5:00pm
Alsbury Baptist Church

Orientation is required for new members. If you can't meet on Sunday, please see Summer Garcia to schedule another time.

Meetings will begin on Wednesday,
February 16th at 6:30 in Room 101

For more information and to register,
contact Summer Garcia at
(817) 915-5999
summer.garcia005@yahoo.com

4 first place
health

discover a new way to healthy living