



FBCNB

Building for God's Tomorrow

Newsletter 3

First Baptist Church New Braunfels

May 2012



Building for God's Tomorrow has been an exciting adventure already. We have prayed. We have met together. We have committed ourselves to God's vision for the future of FBCNB. And the best part is, *Building for God's Tomorrow* is just beginning.

Watching families come and give their faith commitments last Sunday was an exciting time. I am reminded that fulfilling God's vision requires all of the church. My sincere hope over the last months was that your faith would be strengthened. I hope that you have prayed more, not just about *Building for God's Tomorrow*, but for others and yourself. I hope that you have opened your Bible more. I pray that you have had a revival in your heart.

The most important result of our effort is that we would know Jesus more. I am convinced that when we *seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33)*, He really does provide the rest. Our new ministry center is part of the rest. My hope is that you have experienced Jesus in a way that has challenged and grown your faith.

On June 3, we will collect our *First Fruits* offering. This offering is a one-time monetary gift that is either over and above or the initial gift of your three year faith commitment. Enclosed with this newsletter is a special envelope for your *First Fruits* offering. More envelopes will be available at the church on *First Fruits* Sunday, June 3. Use one for each member of the family. Let the children and youth sense the importance of their participation.

You might ask, *Why are we giving a First Fruits offering?* The first reference to first fruits offering is found in Exodus 23:16-19. God's people are instructed in worship and conduct. He tells them that when the harvest is complete, *You shall bring the choice first fruits of your soil into the house of the LORD your God (23:19, NASB)*. The first part of the harvest, of their income, was to be given to the Lord. It was to be given before anything else. It is a time of rejoicing and celebration in recognition of God's goodness and blessing. The *first fruits offering* was to be in proportion to God's blessing and their harvest.

The *First Fruits* offering is important in several ways. It signals the beginning of our financial commitment. It is the *first fruit* of our three year faith commitment. It provides the much-needed capital to begin our project. It is an opportunity to praise God for His working in our lives.

I look forward to June 3 and our *First Fruits* offering. I encourage you to pray and respond in faith. Together we are *Building for God's Tomorrow!*

Blessings,
Pastor Brad

JUNE 3
FIRST FRUITS OFFERING

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen. ~Ephesians 3:20-21