

SPANISH MINISTRY

Varios días han pasado desde la última vez que nos comunicamos por medio de este periódico, pero para mí este tiempo ha sido de bendición. Tenemos que reconocer que El Señor nos bendice aun a través de las tormentas, y esto lo he verificado durante esta peste. He aprendido, de una manera especial, lo que dice Santiago 1:2-8; mejor dicho, lo he vivido!

Quizás la parte que más me ha hecho falta es lo necesario que es adorar a Dios juntos en armonía, y que bueno que EL nos ha mostrado la importancia de confiar en EL y no apoyarnos en nuestra inteligencia. No hay duda de que hemos sido probados en esto, y la prueba no termina. ¡No la falle!

Otro comienzo será el 15 (Domingo) de este mes; tendremos nuestro servicio de adoración a las 2pm, nada más, y en él les informaré sobre el resto del horario para esta temporada.

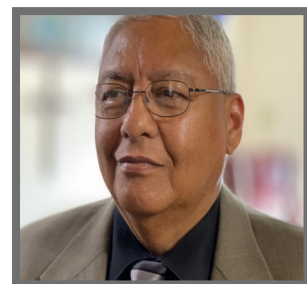
La razón por el cierre fue que varios de los pastores y líderes de la Iglesia fueron contagiados con el virus y era mejor darnos un tiempo de cuarentena. Le extendo las gracias a todos los que han orado por mi y mi esposa. Sus oraciones hicieron una gran diferencia en nuestras vidas. Es indispensable de orar unos por los otros. Nos vemos en la casa de Dios. En servicio a Dios,

Norman Torres. Pastor

Come and see our beautiful building!



Several days have passed since the last time we communicated through this newsletter but for me this time has been a blessing. We recognize that the Lord blesses us even through the storms, and I have verified this truth during this pandemic. I have learned, in a special way, what James 1: 2-8 says, or I should say, I have lived it!



Perhaps the part that I have missed the most is worshiping God together in harmony. How wonderful it is that He has shown us the importance of trusting Him in all and not leaning on

our understanding. There is no doubt that we have been tested on this, and the testing has not ended. Let's not fail it!

We will start back on the 15th (Sunday) of this month with a worship service at 2pm. At that time, I will inform you of the rest of the schedule for this season.

The reason for the closure of the church was that several of the pastors and leaders tested positive for COVID and a time of quarantine was necessary. I extend my thanks to all who have prayed for me and my wife. Your prayers made a big difference in our lives; it is essential to pray for each other. See you in the house of God. Remain faithful. In service to God,

Norman Torres. Pastor



First Baptist Church of Horizon City



*Therefore encourage one another
and build one another up, just as you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*



THE ENCOURAGER

No. 26

November 2020

“For I know that the LORD is great and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.” Psalm 135:5-6

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We are in unusual days in the life of our nation, our city, and our church. I want to begin by thanking those of you who have proven yourself to be faithful in this time. One of the amazing discoveries for me is that faithful followers of Christ are faithful. That seems so obvious that it is almost silly to say, but when times are challenging, the faithful are faithful. The verse this article started with tells us that the LORD is great and that He will accomplish what He intends. We also know that He cares for His people and so this season is a time for us to demonstrate both our faithfulness and our trust in Him. We know that He

has promised that He would never leave us or forsake us. Please spend time in Scripture and in prayer during these days.

“See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:15-18

Jesus is LORD,
Pastor Wes



Christmas Shoeboxes
(Operation Christmas Child)

This Sunday, November 15 is the deadline for Christmas Shoeboxes to be turned in. If you want to pick up additional boxes to pack, please call the church office and arrange a time to pick them up or to have us deliver them to you. You can bring them to church and not attend the service, that will be okay with us.



Please remember that there is a \$9 fee for processing. If you have a box and do not have the \$9, please bring it—we have some people who will be willing to make up the difference. We request that checks be made to **Samaritan's Purse** rather than to the church.

News Flash: This deal is better than any Black Friday deal!

Rightnow Media is a digital library for Bible studies, conferences, and other Biblical resources. It is free to use, and as a church, we have purchased this to be used by you! It can be used by downloading the Rightnow Media app to your phone or by logging onto www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/invite/FBCHC or text **RIGHTNOW FBCHC to 41411**. These two options will get you signed up and using Rightnow media. Once in the app or website, you will see a variety of choices. The top three that I would suggest for you to watch to begin would be:

- 1. The Power of Knowing God by Tony Evans**
This study brings you into a deeper understanding of who God is. He is not distant.
- 2. You and me Forever by Francis Chan**
This video is about marriage and is done by Francis and his wife about building a lifelong marriage.
- 3. Redeem the Screen by Kyle Idleman**
We all have a phone, and Kyle talks about using the screen for God's glory.

In Rightnow media, there are also a lot of studies for families to do all together and videos to share with your children. I urge you take advantage of this resource and let it be a blessing in your life. You are welcome to share the sign-up information with your friends as well.

Sunday, November 15

We will be meeting at the church this Sunday for our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. We will return to having Children's Church and the youth will be meeting on Sunday evening. Our Spanish language schedule will also return to 2:00 p.m. worship services.

There will be a special called business meeting to approve our new bylaws during the 10:00 o'clock service as well. Copies of the changes have been made available for several weeks, and all changes have been approved by the Church Council as well.



Our other Bible studies will not resume until January, with the exception of the Wednesday evening study, and this will be done online with Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88064718030?pwd=dE5ZellvcnBZSHFyZDE4V1JLQVhJUT09>

Meeting ID: 880 6471 8030
Password: 248444

Dealing with Covid

During this past week, our church staff has been dealing with three different deaths, and a number of our church people have tested positive for Covid. All staff members have been

cleared of quarantine. The church has also purchased a fogging machine to disinfect the building. It has been used several times already, and all areas will be disinfected prior to the Sunday services. If you are in an at-risk group, have any kind of sickness, know you have been exposed to someone with Covid, or are just reluctant to come for public worship, please stay home. Our services are available online. Look for a link to the current sermon on our webpage, fbchorizon.com. You can also find the sermon on Facebook. Search for First Baptist Church Horizon City. A link will be emailed to those on our email list. If you want to be included on that list, please email the church office at fbchorizon@sbcglobal.net, and we will add your name. Our webpage also includes archived sermons, so take some time and check them out.

A Different Holiday Season



Due to the pandemic, we will not be having a Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas dinner, or special children's presentation this year. We will be hosting a Christmas Eve service, and preparations are being made for a return to more Bible study classes in January. Pastor Wes will be teaching through the book of Revelation on Wednesday evenings and will be doing a study of Isaiah on Wednesday mornings. There are some other things in process, and we are excited to get to 2021. You may join the Wednesday morning Bible study via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83754512061?pwd=NmJ5TWI5dJpJS3Z3Z1BiTDBFQ3Z3SQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 5451 2061
Password: 861865


Church Giving



A huge "Thank You" to those who have supported our church during the last three weeks we have been closed. There have been some plumbing issues. God has been gracious, but we may have extra expense to replace the cast iron pipes in the old building. Options are being determined now. Please remember that if you cannot attend, we still need to pay our utilities and staff. Your donations are the only source of revenue that we have. You can mail your donations to the church (we will provide pre-addressed envelopes if requested) or use the Tithe.ly app. Download the Tithe.ly app to your phone and fill out the profile. You may then donate to several funds as you choose.



\$ Breaking up the new sidewalk in search of the sewer clean out. \$

 **TITHE.LY** Get the app and search for **First Baptist Church of Horizon City.** Choose from any of our designated funds to give to this ministry.

 Find us on **Facebook** Video of our weekly sermons are provided each week 
First Baptist Church Horizon City

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Download the RightNow Media app for your smart phone, tablet, Apple TV, Roku, or Amazon Fire TV.

Rightnow MEDIA has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever you want—on your phone, tablet, computer, or on your TV at home. You will have **FREE** access to thousands of video resources to help you with parenting, marriage, discipleship and more. It includes content for all ages and stages of life, and all of your family members are invited to set up their own accounts as well. <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/account/Invite/FBCHC> and fill out your profile or text "RIGHTNOW FBCHORIZON" to 41411.