The Purpose of FBC . . .

Accept, love and challenge people with God's truth. We help any willing person reach his or her fullest potential to become radically Christ-like.

Bible Reading for the Week

August 7-Jeremiah 1-3
August 8-Jeremiah 4-6
August 9-Jeremiah 7-9
August 10-Jeremiah 10-13
August 11-Jeremiah 14-17
August 12-Jeremiah 18-22
August 13-Jeremiah 23-25
August 14-Jeremiah 26-29

Birthdays

Tawnya Lazar (8/7)
Peter Verberg (8/7)
Kellie Ward (8/7)
Greg Jones (8/8)
Paul Turck (8/8)
James Lang (8/9)
Tim Hunter (8/11)
Linda Boisjolie (8/12)
Scott Summers (8/13)
Matthew Downs (8/14)
Teresa Kovac (8/14)
Terry Schams (8/14)

For Our Guests . . .

Welcome to First Baptist Church! We are so glad you have joined us this morning.

Guests . . If you would like to receive information or a brochure on FBC and any of its ministries, please stop by the Connections Center.

Also, please share any prayer or praises in the space provided on one of the orange Communication Cards located in the pew racks. Let us know how we can help you!

By giving to Faith Promise you help our missionaries spread the Gospel of Jesus around the world!

Visit our Website for more information on all our ministries: http://fbc-tempe.org

For a complete listing of our Pastoral Staff and contact information, please visit our website at fbc-tempe.org. You may also contact the Church Office at 480-839-0926.

Free Sermons

Want to listen to one of the sermons by Pastor Roger or one of the other FBC Pastors?

Free sermons by Pastor Roger and the other FBC Pastors are available to you on the FBC webpage at www.fbc-tempe.org.

Volunteer House Cleaners Needed at FBC

We are looking for a few good men and women who could help with some important tasks on our campus. We need help with:

- Vacuuming
- Cleaning windows,
- Landscape projects,
- Clean tables and chairs,
- Dusting for cob webs and
- Organizing several storage rooms.

If you would give a few hours to help with one or more of these projects, contact the Church Office at 480-839-0926.

Financial Update 2022

General Giving	Last Week	YTD (7/31)
Budget Plan	$ 28,355	$ 878,420
Giving (Donations)	$ 11,609	$ 762,419
	$ -16,746 (Shortage)	$ -116,001 (Shortage)
GF Expenses	$ 65,488	$ 694,176

Faith Promise	Last Week	YTD (7/31)
Budget Plan	$ 1,045	$ 32,394
Giving (Donations)	$ 829	$ 31,544
	$ -216 (Shortage)	$ -850 (Shortage)
FP Expenses	$ 300	$ 43,271

Legacy Cumulative Debt Reduction

	Last Week	Since Jan 2019
Legacy Designated	$ 698	$ 435,639

Please continue to give to help reduce our long-term Legacy debt of approximately $822,627.20. On February 6, 2018, our debt was $1,829,853.40.

How Do I Get Connected?

Do you want to meet and get to know the full-time Pastors, Children's Director, Women's Ministry Director and others? If so, you are invited to attend one of our "Welcome Lunches" as a guest of Pastor Roger and Dianna. If you would like to attend our next Welcome Lunch please contact the Church Office by calling 480-839-0926.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TEMPE

LOVE GOD PEOPLE

Accepting, loving and challenging people with God's truth

August 7, 2022

4525 S. McClintock Drive
Tempe, AZ 85282
480-839-0926
fbc-tempe.org
Dr. Roger Ball, Senior Pastor

Welcome to Worship

8:00 am-Traditional Worship
O Worship the King
Welcome and Announcements
There is a Fountain
The Old Rugged Cross
I Sing Praises
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
"The Tree the Lord Planted"

9:30 am-Contemporary Worship
Our God
Welcome and Announcements
Always
I Will Rise
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
"The Tree the Lord Planted"

11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship
Only Jesus Christ
Welcome and Announcements
All I Have Is Christ
He Will Hold Me Fast
Behold Him
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
"The Tree the Lord Planted"

11:00 am-Acoustic Praise and Worship (Upper Room)
Welcome
Worship Song #1
Worship Song #2
Worship Song #3
Prayer
Message-PIT Nathan Pipe
"The Tree the Lord Planted"

6:00 pm-Evening Worship
Welcome
God of the Promise
Mighty to Save
1,000 Names
Communion
Prayer
Message-PIT Tom Croke
"Doers of the Word, Part #2—
Two Kinds of Wisdom"

CIRA 2022 Update

The Center for Islamic Research and Awareness (CIRA-a full-time ministry of FBC) is excited to provide you with this financial update for the period of January-February 2022.

Financial Need

Annual Budget	$ 126,770.00
Giving-to-Date	$ 76,649.00
Under Budget	$ 50,121.00

On behalf of Al Fadi, Hanane and the CIRA ministry thank you for your kindness and your continued support. Your contributions enable them to serve HIM to advance the Gospel to Muslims here and throughout the world. For more information contact Al Fadi at alfadi@CIRAInternational.com. Make out all checks to FBC earmarked "CIRA."

Church Plant 2022 Update

The FBC Church Plant (10 minutes from FBC-Tempe) in Guadalupe (a ministry of FBC) is pleased to provide you a financial update for the period of January-February 2022.

Financial Need

Annual Budget	$ 150,000.00
Giving-to-Date	$ 29,143.00
Under Budget	$ 120,857.00

The FBC Church Plant in Guadalupe along with Peter and Trisha Molina, would like to say thank you for your support and contributions which enable them to serve HIM and share the Gospel with the people of Guadalupe. For more information regarding the Church Plant, you can contact Peter Molina at pmolina@fbc-tempe.org. Make out all checks to FBC earmarked "Church Plant."

This Week at FBC

Sunday, August 7
8:00 am-Traditional Worship
8:00 am-Adult Bible Class
9:30 am-Contemporary Worship
9:30 am-Kid City Children's Classes
9:30 am-Teen Bible Class
9:30 am-Adult Bible Classes
11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship
11:00 am-Acoustic Praise and Worship
11:00 am-Kid City Children's Classes
11:00 am-Adult Bible Classes
12:00 pm-Lunch in the MAC
12:15 pm-Men's Ministry Leadership Meeting
6:00 pm-Evening Worship

Monday, August 8
6:00 am-Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm-Deacon Board Meeting
7:00 pm-Deaconess Meeting

Tuesday, August 9
9:30 am-Women's Ministry Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday, August 10
6:30 pm-Worship Team Rehearsal
6:45 pm Choir and Orchestra Rehearsal

Thursday, August 11
5:00 pm-Teen Film and Technology

Saturday, August 13
8:00 am-Church Hike

Consider These

"Seek joy in what you give not in what you get."

"Some people say, 'Give till it hurts."
But God recommends that we give until it feels good.
God loves a cheerful giver!"
(Brian Kluth, Pastor and Generosity Speaker and Author)

Reflect

It is appropriate to ask people how you can help them . . .

- Matthew 20:30-34 Two blind men were sitting by the roadside and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us! . . . Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" He asked, "Lord, they answered, "we want our sight." Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed Him.

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can, in all the places you can,
at all the times you can, to all the people you can,
as long as you can.
(John Wesley)

Safety and Security

For the safety and security of everyone, your backpack or bag may be inspected. Thanks for your cooperation!

FBC Window Decals

FBC car window decals are still available for purchase. All proceeds from these go to Faith Promise to support our FBC Missionaries and Short-Term Mission Trips. If you have any questions regarding these, contact David Brinn.

Recycle Ink Cartridges

Please place any HP, Dell, Lexmark, Brother, Epson, Samsung, Kodak, Sharp or Canon empty ink cartridges that you have in the recycle box in Skylight Hall. These help defray the cost of office supplies for the church.

Visit our Website for more information on all our ministries: http://fbc-tempe.org

Library News

New to the Library:
- Season 2 of ***The Chosen***
- Book #2 of ***Leah's Garden*** by Laurine Snelling

Stop by and check them out!

FBC Bible Classes

8:00 am

Messenger Class-Room 107/108
(Couples and Singles, 50's-70's)

9:30 am
Nursery-
Birth through 23 Months Old
Children's Classes-Kid City
(2 Years through 6th Grade)

Truth Seekers-Room 106
(Couples and Singles All Ages)

JHM (Junior High)-Room 207
(Junior High Ages 12-14)

HSM (High School)-Room 207
(High School Ages 14-18)

11:00 am
Nursery-
Birth through 23 Months Old
Children's Classes-Kid City
(2 Years through 6th Grade)

The Hood-Room 107/108
(Couples and Singles All Ages)

Journeys-Room 106
(Couples and Singles All Ages)

Online Donation

Why not consider signing up for electronic giving. FBC relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an easy way to give once or on a recurring basis. To give electronically, visit www.fbc-tempe.org and locate the link to the electronic giving page.

Help FBC Meet Its Budget

We appreciate your faithful giving to FBC and its ministries.

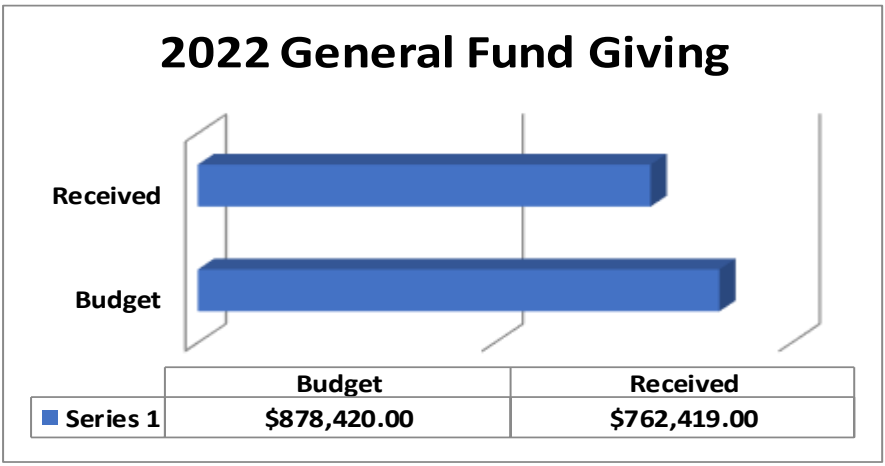
God is doing many good things at our church. Pray for the economy in America.

We need $28,355.00 each week to meet our budget.

YTD Money Needed
$878,420.00

YTD Money Received
$762,419.00

UNDER Budget
$-116,001.00



Upcoming Men's Events

Men's ONLY Camping –

Dates – September 23-25
Location – Sharp Creek Campground (east of Payson)
Cost - $40.00 per person (includes meals and camp sight)
Must register with payment by August 28 –
contact Jim Strouse at 480-410-5245 or
Pastor Anthony with any questions or to register

I will praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart,
I will tell of all Your marvelous works.
I will be glad and rejoice in You;
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High. (Psalm 9:1-2)

children's ministry

(Birth through 6th Grade)

Preschool and Kindergarten
Bible Story: Jonah in the Big Fish
Bible Point: I Can Talk to God

Elementary
9:30 am Bible Story: Redemption Review
11:00 am Bible Story: Israel Crosses the Jordan

Extraordinary Blessings / Special Needs
Bible Story:

Our goal is to partner with parents in teaching children
to see and experience the world through the lenses of our beliefs.
Our desire is for them to have a biblical worldview
instead of a secular worldview. Our worldview influences
everything in our lives. We want our children to know
that God's Word is the foundation for our lives
and is the standard we use to judge every thought and action.
Our Bible is perfect and true. If we use it as our foundation,
it will guide us and change our lives.

Kid City Prayer Request for the Week:
Pray that Kid City . . .
Would be a place where laughter and warm smiles
bear witness to the welcoming, loving God that we all know.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever;
With my mouth will I make known
Your faithfulness to all generations.
(Psalm 89:1)

Do you listen to . . .

Pastor Roger's "Walk and Talks"

each week? If not, why not start this week!!

Here is how you can find the "Walk and Talks" on the internet.

- The most current weekly "Walk and Talk" is found on the FBC webpage at www.fbc-tempe.org
- To find all of the "Walk and Talks" on YouTube, go to www.youtube.com, type in "FBC Tempe Walk and Talk"
- To find the "Walk and Talks" on Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/FBCtempe, search First Baptist Church – Tempe and go to videos

Worship Service Tech Workers Needed

Due to moves and health issues **we are in serious need of new Tech Workers to run our Sound, Lighting, Media and Camera Stations** for all morning services, as well as our evening service. If you have a desire to serve our Lord Jesus in these areas, we need you greatly. Our worship services cannot happen without dedicated volunteers to serve these vital tech positions. We will train you on whichever tech station you would like to serve. Please contact Pastor Rob Swanson at 480-839-0926 or Julie Huver at jhuver@fbc-tempe.org.

"TOT TOWN"

FREE New Indoor Play Area in Kid City!

Ages – Birth to 5 years old with attending parent
When – First and Third Thursdays of each month from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Where – FBC Kid City Preschool

Call your friends, bring your tots and meet up with new friends for some great play time. This is an amazing NEW community space, which will include bounce houses, imagination play, doll houses, an indoor playground and more! Contact the Church Office at 480-839-0926 for more information.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, September 10, 2022 -
7:50 to 10:00 am

You will get to:

- Meet – Know – Pray for Other Men
- Enjoy an Excellent Breakfast
- Join Other Men in Lifting Up Jesus
- Develop New and Lasting Friendships
- Worship
- Discover Special Events for Men

Sign-up today at the Men's Ministry Table
in Skylight Hall – Don't miss it!

Online Giving

Have you ever considered using online donations to make your contributions to FBC?

Online Giving . . .

- Helps you plan your offerings as a percentage of your income (I Corinthians 16:2).
- Is easy, convenient and secure.
- Supports the ministry program at FBC, just like your plate offerings do.

Would you like to give online? Go to the FBC webpage at www.fbc-tempe.org and click on "Donations" and follow the directions. If you need assistance contact Pam Rosendale at 480-839-0926.

GriefShare Support Group In-Person or Online

Help and encouragement
following the death of a loved one

GriefShare Weekly Seminars – Sundays, 2:00 to 4:00 pm
Sunday, August 21, through Sunday, November 20
For registration information, contact Teresa Kovac
at 732-319-5533 or visit www.Griefshare.org

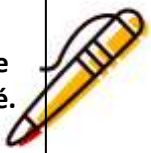
Women's Ministries helps create opportunities for women to grow in their relationship with Jesus, to make healthy and safe connections with other women of faith, and to use their God given talents to benefit the church body and the community.

<u>Weekly Schedule</u>

Summer Bible Class –
Two Studies in One!!

Tuesday Mornings,
June 7 – August 23 from
9:30 to 11:00 am

Additional Information can be found at the Women's Ministry Table across from Skylight Café.



Sign-up there to receive an email reminder on all activities and events!

Faith Promise . . .

Thank you for being faithful to God's Word through Faith Promise Giving!

Faith Promise is money you give to help our missionaries.

If we do not receive $1,045.00 each week, all of our Faith Promise missionaries like Jim and Carolyn Fasold, Jeff Hause, Kevin and Lelani Humble, Bernie and Mary Miller, Brent and Melanie Palmer, Erika Potter, Tom and Laura Requadt, Dwight and Gwynne Shaver and Cathy Wilson will not receive their "full" monthly support from us.

Your faithfulness helps our missionaries spread the love of Jesus around the world!

You can give to Faith Promise through your online giving or you can make a check payable to FBC earmarked "Faith Promise.

Invite your friends on Sundays to Hear Practical Answers to Every Day Problems!

Sunday AM, August 7 – True Jews Follow Jesus

Sunday AM, August 14 – You Must Choose God

Sunday AM, August 21 – Repent and Please

Serving Helpers and Cooking Helpers Needed

- ***Serving Help is needed in Skylight Café*** on Sundays at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am – Contact Robin Spencer at 480-708-6964
- ***Serving Help is needed at Lunch in the MAC*** on Sundays at 12:00 pm – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***A Cooking Assistance is needed on Sundays for Lunch Preparation*** – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***Individuals are needed to help Wash Dishes on Sundays following Lunch*** – Contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926

Happiness is in the heart,
not in the circumstances.

All-Church Summer Hike

Lava River Tube (Northwest of Flagstaff)

Date and Time – Saturday, August 13,
from 6:00 am to 5:00 pm
Meet at FBC to carpool to Flagstaff
Trail – 1.5 miles round trip with 100-foot climb down
Moderate hike in a cave formed by lava.
No natural light, rocky terrain, awesome wall colors. Constantly 45 degrees.
Bring – layers, flashlight, water bottle, snacks for the drive.
(Lunch in Flagstaff after the hike)

For more information contact Adam Bachman
at 480-363-5570 or at ajbachman7@hotmail.com

Pastor Roger Would Like to Invite You to Tour one of our Former Church Buildings

One of our former FBC Worship Centers was built at the corner of University Drive and Myrtle Avenue, the current location of the ASU Tower Center Buildings.

ASU is currently in the master planning phase for the Tempe campus and that corner is significant as an academic introduction to ASU. Plans are to demolish the Tower Center Building to facilitate other university development for adjacent areas in the near term and for a significant academic structure for that site in the future.

You are invited to visit this old church on Wednesday, August 10, before it is demolished. Be at the southeast former of University Drive and Myrtle Avenue at 9:34 am for a guided tour of the old church conducted by an ASU official. To find a parking spot come really early. Also, because of the heat bring an umbrella.

The gospel of Jesus Christ
breaks hard hearts and heals broken hearts.

Join us on Sunday Evenings as we are challenged to accept the "Real Truth!"

Sunday, August 7 – World peace does not come from the world.

Sunday, August 21 – Choose proper friendship. Reap eternal benefits.

Sunday, August 28 – Leave the judging to Jesus.

Sunday, September 4 – Choose God's will not your will.

Sunday, September 11 – Money Management Matters to God

Follow Jesus in Believer's Baptism

Our next believer's baptism is scheduled for Sunday, August 14.

Reasons to be baptized…

- **Baptism says**, "I am not ashamed to say I am a believer in Jesus Christ".
- **Baptism is** an advertisement for Jesus Christ.
- **Baptism is** doing what Jesus said, identifying yourself that you are a Christian.

The only pre-requisite for baptism is to be sure of your spiritual condition. Have you put your trust in Jesus alone for your eternal life?

YES, I am interested in Baptism. Please call me.

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

Please tear off and drop in the offering plate.

Missionaries Via Faith Promise Need YOUR Help

10 Reasons YOU are Needed to Help God

1. Inflation and near recession are decreasing donations and offerings to our missionaries.
2. With the cost of everything going up around the world this makes living and doing ministry more expensive.
3. This month, July 2023, if we don't receive $4,000 earmarked Faith Promise we will reduce a percentage of support to our Faith Promise missionaries.
4. Almost yearly our church supports and sends out new home FBCT missionaries like Al and Hunan Fadi, Mark Burritt, Steve and Darlene Evers, Bob and Elena Gonzales, Jeff Hause, Ben and Aleyamma Joseph, Ericka Potter, Steve and Patty Robenalt, Dwight and Gwynne Shaver and Peter and Trish Molina.
5. Almost monthly missionaries visit our church with much good news and sacrifice.
6. Give to Faith Promise an extra donation every month because of Jesus.
7. Give to Faith Promise beyond what you give to the Church Budget.
8. Every month in Pastor Roger's Prayer Letter we offer new stories from our missionaries.
9. Every month our 24 Faith Promise missionaries need from us about $4,000 in donations.
10. **Missionaries Via Faith Promise Need YOUR Help.**

Sunday Lunch in the MAC

Your donations at the food line in the wood boxes help greately to cover the cost of each meal

August 7 – Sub Sandwich Bar with your Choice of Meats, Veggies, condiments, Chips, Salad Bar and Dessert

August 14 – Barbecue Pork, Barbecue Chicken, Mac and Cheese, Cheddar Cornbread, Cowboy Corn, Honey Mint Watermelon, Salad Bar and Dessert

New Sunday Ladies Bible Class

Starting Date and Time – Sunday, August 14, 9:30 am
Location – FBC Room 104
Topic – Understanding the Bible
Taught by – Mindelle Will, Women's Ministry Director
Description – Come and learn how each story in the Bible fits together to reveal God's Master Plan

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Faith and Family Night

Join the Arizona Diamondbacks and hundreds of churches from across Arizona at Chase Field as they host ***"Faith and Family Night"*** on Friday, August 19, against the St. Louis Cardinals beginning at 6:40 PM.

The Diamondbacks are thrilled to host this special night of unity and fellowship, featuring postgame Diamondbacks player testimonials and an exhilarating concert from Grammy award winning band Switchfoot!

There are limited tickets available at a cost of $20.00 per person. Contact Jim Strouse at 480-410-5245 to purchase your ticket.

Men's Sunday Bible Class

Start Date and Time – Sunday, August 21, 9:30 am
Location – FBC Room 105
Topic – Authentic Manhood – A Man and His Work
Taught by – Jeff Warwick
Description – Helping men understand the role of work in their lives as God intended.

NEW Young Adults Home Group

Start Date and Time – Every Other Tuesday, beginning September 27, at 7:00 pm
Location – Home of Robert and Larae Hill in Chandler
Led by – Robert Hill and Mike McCall
Contact Robert Hill at 480-205-9743 or Mike McCall at mayhmccall@gmail.com with any questions you might have
Singles and couples are welcome!

Worship Ministry News . . .

JOIN THE CHOIR

We are gearing up from an amazing Fall Season, and we'd love to have **YOU** join us! No experience in music or choirs is necessary - just a heart willing to lead others in worship! So, come on out and give it a try! ***Our next rehearsal is Wednesday, August 3, at 6:30 PM.*** For more information or to sign up, please email (or see) Pastor Rob Swanson at robswanson.fbc@gmail.com. We can't wait for you to join us!

FBC ORCHESTRA

Are you an instrumentalist that would like to use your skills to lead others towards Jesus? Then we'd love to talk to you! We are looking for additional band members (guitar - electric or acoustic, bass, drums, keys, piano, etc.) We are also looking for orchestral players (trumpets, trombones, French horns, clarinets, flutes, saxophone, violin, viola, cello, etc.) ***Even if you haven't played in years, it's never too late to use your gifts!*** For more information, please email (or see) Pastor Rob Swanson at robswanson.fbc@gmail.com.

The heart is happiest
when it beats for others.

Save the Date

Join us here at FBC on Sunday, August 14, with our **"BIG Back 2 Church Bash!"**

- Worship Services at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am
- From 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm there will be . . .
    - ✓ Barbecue Lunch in the Gym,
    - ✓ Bounce Houses,
    - ✓ Big Bubble Machine and
    - ✓ Snow Cones
- Then join us at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center for a

- **"BIG Time Gospel Concert"** with the Matney Brothers. Following the concert everyone is invited to an Ice Cream Social!

Put this important date on your calendar and plan to be here!

WE WANT YOU

WOULD YOU PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SERVING IN KID CITY?

No prior experience is needed!
Don't forget…the Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals. God will use anyone to build His Kingdom.

AGE GROUP:
Which age is your "cup of tea"?
Nursery/walkers, Preschool (4's-kindergarten), Grade school (1st-6th grade) or Awana game time?

WHEN WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE:
Would you prefer serving during the 9:30 am service, 11:00 am service or 5:45 pm (Awana)?

Every child is very important in God's Kingdom and we want every Sunday to be very purposeful at FBC – and you can make it happen. please pray about partnering up with Kid City!

Please feel free to contact me with any comments questions or turn this form into Kid City or the church office. Sharmon fbcchildren@fbc-tempe.org or 480-839-0926

Yes, I'm interested in serving in Kid City.
Name: _____
Cell: _____
Email: _____
What age group would you like to work with? _____
When would you like to serve? _____

It’s that time again . .

Walk to Bethlehem

To honor and bear witness to the birth of Jesus Christ,

We need your HELP!!

To lift Jesus ***REALLY HIGH*** we will set-up Walk to Bethlehem on Monday and Tuesday, October 24-25, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

We need around 50 people to keep the work manageable, less of a burden and almost done in the two days. Can you bring a friend to help with discipleship - The Great Commission??

Bring gloves, hats and battery charged up drills and small hand tools.

Meet a bunch of Jesus followers in Pastor Roger and Dianna’s backyard on Monday and Tuesday, October 25 and 26. Snacks for breaks, lunch and plenty of cold water will be provided.

FinancialPeace UNIVERSITY

Planning for the future is hard
when you are still paying for the past!
Listen – there is a better way!

At Financial Peace University you will learn how to beat debt and plan for the future. Interested??

We are offering two different 9-week classes this fall:

- Sunday evenings at 5:45 pm, beginning on September 18 and
- Monday evenings at 6:30 pm, beginning on September 19.

The cost is $50.00 per family, payable on the first night of class.

Sign-Up at the Men’s Ministry Table or contact Aaron Will at aaron.will@edupoint.com and let him know to reserve your seat!

New Stories: God and Me – Late July, 2022

1. Imagine this for Jesus. In the middle of 100 plus degree super-hot July in Mesa, pack up your few belongs, load up your four young children and travel 67 hours around the world on several planes through many airports to reach Papua New Guinea to share Jesus. Missionaries Ryan, Shelby and kids say "Thank you" from Papua New Guinea to many of you who prayed for them and or gave money and donations to help them return to church plant among the Manam people. Your prayers and monthly financial support are deeply needed and appreciated. But it is enough Jesus died for me.

2. Thank you, Lord, for the following people in the last couple weeks who signed up to serve Jesus in the choir or orchestra or the sound booth: Damon, Aly, Jessie, Karen, Lonnie, Kathleen, Sherise, Tom and Miranda. Plus, more people are considering. We need you in the choir. Join us. I need no other argument that Jesus died for me.

3. I followed my Dad in drinking alcohol and for 18 years I was a drunk. I hurt many people. I was so wrong. Now for the last 15 years I have been clean, sober and I stopped drinking completely, 100% no more, because the Lord changed my life. I now tell people follow Jesus and say no to drinking, alcohol and drugs.

4. Recently in church during the worship song at 11:00 am as we sang, "See the Lost He is Saving," I looked to my right about 30 yards and a young single man was standing alone and crying. Repeatedly he wiped tears from his eyes. Was God at work in his heart? Yes, I think so. The next song we sang was, "God Heard Humanity Cry." Can you see God at work?

5. Neir is a young Asian adult female, first time guest, who recently came to Sunday Night Worship. Before church started I introduced myself. After church I thanked her for attending and she said, "I am so glad I came tonight. I needed to hear the message on loving people with no biases and no prejudice. Thank you."

6. It started out as a normal Wednesday morning on July 6 as Mark rode his bicycle to a nearby Circle-K. On the return trip home Mark was clearly in a cross walk when a driver in a car hit Mark broadside flipping him on top of the hood of the car and sent him crashing into the windshield with his bike under the car. Mark received a broken hip. Broken ribs. Broken shoulder. Broken right ankle. A concussion. Pray for Mark as he recovers and by the grace of God is in stable condition. If you can help Mark with some cash for his many bills, please donate online or give a check to FBCT

earmarked Mark or bicycle accident. We thank God Mark's life was preserved.

7. Lonnie came to worship most recently for the first time. I asked how did you find our church? Lonnie said, “God made me see this church as I drove by.” I said, “God loves to speak to us through our eyes, ears, heart and mind and His Spirit works on our souls. Lonnie smiled big and said “Yes.”

8. Are you learning to discern God’s whispers over the enemy’s shouts? One person humbly said, "This means that I have to watch who has my ear.” We are warned against having “itching ears,” which is just listening to what makes us feel good. I used to listen to mediums and psychics and got caught up in what might be my future and what path to take. But be careful who has your ear! With social media, fake news, false prophets, and peer pressure - too many people are speaking. You must train your ear to hear God through His Word and prayer and he will confirm and speak to you with peace and clarity when you ask. “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm.” (Ephesians 6:12)

9. “Hi this is Tom calling and if you just want to text back that “Yes” you're praying that would be fine. We had an MRI with my wife and just found out there is a tumor on her brain. This is horrible. I'm trying not to overthink this but this doesn't look good so just please keep us in your prayers. I would rather stay ignorant as to what's going on because I really have no idea but we will be seeing a doctor soon. I just wanted to call and let you know." I returned the call to Tom and listened, listened, encouraged, pointed to Romans 8:28 and prayed. My heart feels Tom's pain and stress.

10. A couple of weeks ago Mom and I both got Covid at the same time. I was already feeling strangled and alone in my role as family caregiver. When we got sick all of the other caregivers that help mom around the clock had to be called off. I moved in with mom by myself for five days, five nights. 24/7. It was an extremely mentally and emotionally challenging time for me. I missed my home, my husband, my family and my "freedom.” The only place I could turn was UP. I began reading Joyce Meyers book on "7 Things That Steal Your Joy". Also, the book "Trusting God" by Jerry Bridges. Both of these books citing many scripture verses about the Sovereignty of God.

11. I want to start by mentioning that fear has ruled my life. One bad thought and I was completely hindered. It seemed SO hard for me to gain control over my mind. I was a highly competitive gymnast and this kind of mindset was crippling and extremely difficult to overcome. It bled into every area of my life. I think I was seeking some sort of foundation and truth to anchor and train my mind in. Here are some of my favorite truths: God’s

Word does not change. God is a good father. He wants me close. He likes hearing from me and enjoys me. He gives good gifts. He provides for me and will not leave me. He directs my path. He works all things for my good. He is more concerned with my character than my comfort.

12. After two years of complete absence from church, because of Covid, God clearly told me I needed to return to on-campus, in person worship. I had a problem. In the last two years I became independent of God. I was not depending on God but on self. With tears he said, “I am learning to trust God again and love the family of God.”

13. With big tears and much anxiety, the teen said, “Mom I saw this religious video on social media and the teacher said the Bible says, ‘Soon bad angels under the Euphrates river, when it dries up, will come out of the ground to kill many people and nobody is talking about it. Is that true?’” I told this parent, “Revelation 9:13 -21 says in the future, NOT now, yes this will occur. But no one knows when this will occur. John who wrote the Book of Revelation expected this to occur in his life time, 2000 years ago. For many generations people expected it to happen in their life time. Yes, it will happen in the future. No one knows when.” Never tell people what only God knows and controls. Jesus said, “No one knows the timing of the future except God.”

14. Pray for me he said, “I just demolished my car, I totaled it. I’m not doing well, several injuries and lots of pain. I became dizzy, while driving my car, from prescription medicine and messed up my turn. Pray for me.” I said, “I am praying, so glad you are still alive. You have a long road to recovery. How can I help?” He said, “Just pray”. (A few basic lessons: Read the side effects on all prescription medication. Triple check your driving skills even under normal conditions. God says, ask for help. Let others protect you. Protect one another.)

15. “Which job does God want me to take?” he asked. “The one that pays the most money but requires a major relocation for our family to the East Coast? Or the job which pays a little less, no relocating and we remain near our family and relatives which we love dearly?” I replied, “The better paying job gives you more money but you will be far away from family with major expenses to visit your family. I don’t know what God wants for you but trading a little extra money for a far-away move away from family requires a major evaluation and much prayer. Be careful, money will not buy happiness. If all the factors are basically equal, a few more dollars will not replace a long-distance relationship with family and relative.

16. A neighbor took his family to a lake which ended in disaster. Pray. While enjoying a ride on a pontoon boat, his daughter and friend fell off the boat and were hit by the propeller. Numerous cuts down to the bone and much blood loss. They are now in the hospital with many surgeries, both are expected to live. The family is emotionally distraught. Pray for healing. God is using me to help them.

17. Are you discouraged by the suffering and confusion of life? Raise your eyes and soften your heart to God. Never forget this amazing promise to God's people true believers from Joel 2:25. God says, "Then I will compensate you for the years, That the swarming locust has eaten, The creeping locust, the stripping locust, and the gnawing locust" — Locust is symbolic for pain and suffering. This means your future, as a Believer in Jesus, is filled with good, compensation and blessings from God even though disappointment and misery surround you. Bet the farm on God. Trust the promises of God at all times.

18. One church leader writes, "I pray I can have the opportunity to be of service to God. I am learning it is much better to listen more, ask permission to ask questions and to summarize what you hear. This has greatly improved my understanding of many situations. God is growing me and using me to help rebuild a broken marriage of 42 years. Praise God as He is showing me how to better love difficult people and teaching me to be more thankful for everything in my life.

19. Life is filled with painful "related" challenges. On the same day my friend quit his job, strangely enough, the bank called his employer to confirm his employment on a recent loan on a new truck. But since he was unemployed the bank repossessed his truck and all the work tools in it. The bank has no mercy. Pray for much needed discernment for my friend to see the "law of cause and effect." Every careless action we take will often have reactions with painful implications. This ripple effect is by design. Everything in life is designed to be a growth opportunity to help us act and think more like Jesus.

20. One person said to me, "I started thinking how the social media culture glorifies wealth and laziness. But the Bible says we need to work hard and not be lazy." I replied, "If we do not honor God and work hard we will self-destruct. There are lots of examples in the Bible. If we fear man more than God than we make people bigger than God. The Bible calls all of this idolatry. Love God with everything. Live and work all for God. No self-glory. Everything is a gift from God." The idolatry you run to today will be your misery tomorrow.

Video and audio services and messages are being live streamed at 9:30 and 11:00 am and 6:00 pm Sundays at https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTempe

Pastor Roger's sermons and other FBC Pastors can be heard for free on our website at www.fbc-tempe.org.

Sunday Mornings Messages

August 14 – "Taking Responsibility"
(Ezekiel 18:1-20)
Pastor Anthony Whitlatch (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)
PIT Nathan Pipe (11:00 Upper Room)

August 21 – "God of Mercy"
(Ezekiel 18:21-32)
Pastor Anthony Whitlatch (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)
PIT Nathan Pipe (11:00 Upper Room)

August 28 – "Security Is in God Alone"
(Ezekiel 19:1-14)
Pastor Matthew Downs (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)
PIT Nathan Pipe (11:00 Upper Room)

September 4 – "Do You Question God?"
(Ezekiel 20:1-31)
Pastor Matthew Downs (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)
PIT Nathan Pipe (11:00 Upper Room)

Sunday Evening Messages

August 7 – "Doers of the Word, #2, Two Kinds of Wisdom"
(James 3:13-18) PIT Tom Croke

August 14 – Gospel Music Concert

August 21 – "Doers of the Word, #3, Conflict from Envy and Evil Desire"
(James 4:1-3) Pastor Matthew Downs

“The Tree the Lord Planted”

August 7, 2022
Pastor Anthony Whitlatch

Ezekiel 17:1 – *Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, (2) “Son of man, propound a riddle and speak a parable to the house of Israel, (3) saying, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “A great eagle with great wings, long pinions and a full plumage of many colors came to Lebanon and took away the top of the cedar. (4) “He plucked off the topmost of its young twigs and brought it to the land of merchants, he set it in a city of traders, (5) “He also took some of the seed of the land and planted it in fertile soil. He placed it beside abundant waters; he set it like a willow. (6) “Then it sprouted and became a low, spreading vine with its branches turned toward him, but its roots remained under it. So it became a vine and yielded shoots and sent out branches. (7) “But there was another great eagle with great wings and much plumage; and behold, this vine bent its roots toward him and sent out its branches toward him from the beds where it was planted, that he might water it. (8) “It was planted in good soil beside abundant waters, that it might yield branches and bear fruit and become a splendid vine.”’*

- **Episode 1** (vs 3-4) - Eagle #1 and the _____
- **Episode 2** (vs 5-6) - Eagle #1 and the _____
- **Episode 3** (vs 7-8) - _____ and the vine

Ezekiel 17:9 – *“Say, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “Will it thrive? Will he not pull up its roots and cut off its fruit, so that it withers – so that all its sprouting leaves wither? And neither by great strength nor by many people can it be raised from its roots again. (10) “Behold, though it is planted, will it thrive? Will it not completely wither as soon as the east wind strikes it – wither on the beds where it grew?”’”*

- Pattern is one _____ and three _____- back to back

Ezekiel 17:11 – *Moreover, the word of the Lord came to me, saying, (12) “Say now to the rebellious house, ‘Do you not know what these things mean?’ Say, ‘Behold, the King of Babylon came to Jerusalem, took its king and princes and brought them to him in Babylon.*

- **Episode 1** - Eagle #1 - _____ - Sprig of Cedar - _____

Ezekiel 17:13 – *'He took one of the royal family and made a covenant with him, putting him under oath. He also took away the mighty of the land, (14) that the kingdom might be in subjection, not exalting itself, but keeping his covenant that it might continue.*

- **Episode 2** - Eagle #1 and the Vine - _____

Ezekiel 17:15a – *'But he rebelled against him by sending his envoys to Egypt that they might give him horses and many troops.*

- **Episode 3** - Eagle #2 - _____ and the Vine

Ezekiel 17:15b – *Will he succeed? Will he who does such things escape? Can he indeed break the covenant and escape? (16) 'As I live,' declares the Lord God, 'Surely in the country of the king who put him on the throne, whose oath he despised and whose covenant he broke, in Babylon he shall die. (17) 'Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company will not help him in the war, when they cast up ramps and build siege walls to cut off many lives. (18) 'Now he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, and behold, he pledged his allegiance, yet did all these things; he shall not escape'" (19) Therefore, thus says the Lord God, "As I live, surely My oath which he despised and My covenant which he broke, I will inflict on his head. (20) "I will spread My net over him, and he will be caught in My snare. Then I will bring him to Babylon and enter into judgment with him there regarding the unfaithful act which he has committed against Me. (21) "All the choice men in all his troops will fall by the sword, and the survivors will be scattered to every wind; and you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken."*

- God will be faithful to _____

How can God destroy Jerusalem and remove the King and stay faithful to the Davidic Covenant?

Episode 4 - Season Finale

Jesus Christ is the Fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant

Ezekiel 17:22 – *Thus says the Lord God, "I will also take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and set it out; I will pluck from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one and I will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.*

- "Lofty top of the cedar" represents _____
- "Young twig" - _____ - "tender" - _____
- "High and Loft Mountain" is _____

Ezekiel 17:23 – *"On a high mountain of Israel I will plant it, that it may bring forth boughs and bear fruit and become a stately cedar. And birds of every kind will nest under it; they will nest in the shade of its branches.*

- John 12:23 – *And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (24) "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. (25) "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. (26) "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.*
- To be "planted is to _____, be _____, and raise to life

Ezekiel 17:24 – *"All of the trees of the field will know that I am the Lord; I bring down the high tree, exalt the low tree, dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will perform it."*

- Immediate context is _____ and _____
- Final context is _____ death, burial, and resurrection from the dead

GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES NOW AND IN THE FUTURE
DO NOT WAVER ON BELIEVING OR TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

Promises for NOW

- Discipline (believer who is sinning) - Hebrews 12:7-8
- Forgive (repentant old believer and new believer) - 1 John 1:9 and Romans 10:9
- Mature and Teach (believer who is humble and teachable) - John 14:26
- Turn the rebellious over to his or her sin (the unbelievers who refuses to acknowledge God and/or turn to Jesus Christ and/or accept His morality) - Romans 1:26-32

Promises for the Future

- Heaven and the return of Jesus Christ - John 14:1-3
- Hell - Revelation 20:15