

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

February 26-Numbers 7
February 27-Numbers 8-10
February 28-Numbers 11-13
March 1-Numbers 14-15
 Psalm 90
March 2-Numbers 16-17
March 3-Numbers 18-20
March 4-Numbers 21-22
March 5-Numbers 23-25

Birthdays

Deanna Murray (2/26)
Tommy Smith (2/27)
Julie Huver (2/28)
Christy Tribiana (2/28)
Miranda Bender (3/2)
Rachel Blum (3/2)
Sarah Roberts (3/3)
Ken Sandoval (3/3)

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 2023

General Giving	Last Week	YTD (2/19)
Budget Plan	\$ 27,766	\$ 222,128
Giving (Donations)	\$ 11,148	\$ 142,555
	\$ -16,618 (Shortage)	\$ -79,573 (Shortage)
GF Expenses	\$ 48,113	\$ 169,944
Faith Promise	Last Week	YTD (2/19)
Budget Plan	\$ 1,078	\$ 8,624
Giving (Donations)	\$ 340	\$ 5,189
	\$ -738 (Shortage)	\$ -3,435 (Shortage)
FP Expenses	\$ 00	\$ 3,696

Legacy Cumulative Debt Reduction

	Last Week	Since Jan 2019
Legacy Designated	\$ 215	\$ 504,480

Please continue to give to help reduce our long-term Legacy debt of approximately \$708,671.85
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  TEMPE

WE
LOVE
GOD
PEOPLE

Accepting, loving and challenging people with God's truth

February 26, 2023

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

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name
Welcome and Announcements
Blessed Be the Name
Because He Lives
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“True Worship”

9:30 am-Contemporary Worship

Crown Him With Many Crowns
Welcome and Announcements
God Is For Us
That’s The Power
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“True Worship”

11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship

It Is Finished
Welcome and Announcements
Better Is One Day
House of God Forever
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“True Worship”

6:00 pm-Evening Worship

Welcome
God so Loved
Glory to God Forever
Prayer
Message-PIT Tom Croke
“Rejoice-Peace Through Grace”

CIRA 2023 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	\$ 139,447.00
Giving-to-Date	\$ 17,903.00
Under Budget	\$ 121,544.00

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@CIRAIInternational.com.
Make out all checks to FBC earmarked “CIRA.”

Church Plant 2023 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	\$ 4,739.00
Under Budget	\$ 145,261.00

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, February 26

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-Kid City Children’s Classes
11:00 am-Adult Bible Classes
12:00 pm– Lunch in the MAC
5:45 pm-Awana Club
6:00 pm-Evening Worship Service

Monday, February 27

6:30 am-Men’s Bible Study
7:00 pm-Parents of Addicted Loved Ones

Tuesday, February 28

9:30 am-Women’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study
7:00 pm-Young Singles Small Group

Wednesday, March 1

5:30 pm-Young Families Group
6:00 pm-Teen smAsh Wednesday

Thursday, March 2

6:30 pm-Women’s Ministry Thursday Evening Bible Study

Saturday, March 4

4:00 pm-Church Hike

Consider These

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

*“With the price of everything else going up these days,
aren’t you glad the Lord hasn’t increased the tithe to 15%?”*

“Real charity does not care if it is tax deductible or not.”

Reflect

Reflect . . .

If God is truly bigger than a paycheck, what are some ways you have seen him bring provisions into your life recently?

Prayer . . .

Heavenly Father, open our eyes to “see” your provisions in our life. Help us to acknowledge your financial blessings by giving thank offerings for what you have given us. Amen.

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.



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

Library News

New Books and DVD’s are out and on the shelves of the FBC Library!

Stop by and check it 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)

Ladies Class-Room 104
(Ladies Only)

Men’s Class-Room 105
(Men Only)

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)

Christ-Like Marriage-Room 118
(Couples 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

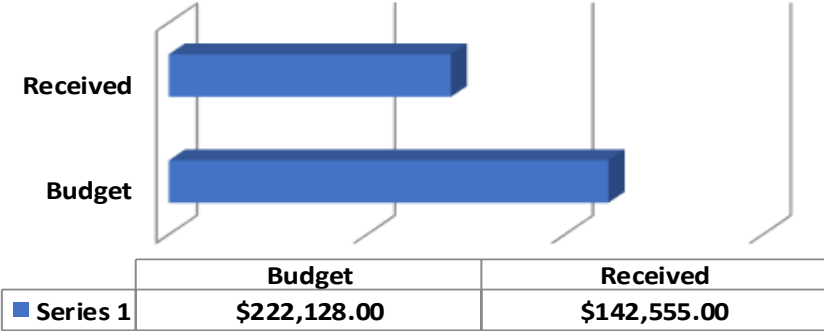
We appreciate your faithful giving to FBC and its ministries.

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

We need \$27,766.00 each week to meet our budget.

YTD Money Needed
\$222,128.00
YTD Money Received
\$142,555.00
UNDER Budget
\$-79,573.00

2023 General Fund Giving



Sunday Lunch in the MAC

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

February 26 – Pasta Alfredo and Meatballs, Vegetables, Garlic Toast, Salad Bar and Dessert



A Christian is a mind
through which Christ thinks,
a heart through which Christ loves,
a voice through which Christ speaks
and a hand through which Christ helps.



(Birth through

6th Grade)

Preschool and Kindergarten

Bible Story: Adam and Eve Take Care of the Garden

Bible Point: I Can Love

Elementary

9:30 am Bible Story: Jesus Wants Us to Follow Him

11:00 am Bible Story: Jonathan Warns David

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 forgiveness, faith and wisdom are shared
so that others might grow.

Awana Clubs

Sunday Evenings from 5:45 to 7:15 pm
3-years-old – 6th Grade



February 26 – Club Night

“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 includes bounce houses, imagination play, doll houses, an indoor playground and more! Contact the Church Office for more information.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 11, 2023

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!**



All Church Hike

Date and Time – Saturday, March 4, 4:00 – 8:00 pm

Location – Second Water Trail – Superstition Mountain
(Moderate – 5 Miles – 458 Feet Elevation)

Bring: water, snacks, layers and flashlight

This trail will lead to the desert valley behind Weavers Needle.

Enjoy the desert during the sunset.

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



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.



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 Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2394 or at the Church Office at 480-839-0926
- ***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



GriefShare Support Group In-Person or Online

Help and encouragement following the death of a loved one

GriefShare Weekly Seminars –

Sunday, February 5, through May 7 (via Zoom or in person on request)

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.

Sign-up at the Women's Ministry Table to receive an email reminder on all activities and events.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Dates – January 10 – April 25 (No Spring Break)

Time – 9:30 – 11:30 am in Room 118

We are excited to welcome back Sue Jones. She will be teaching on the ***Fruit of the Spirit ~ Cultivating Christlike Character***. You can purchase the book on Amazon for \$7.99 or find it at your favorite Christian bookstore.

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Dates – January 19 – March 2

Time – 6:30 – 8:00 pm in Room 104

The Gospel on the Ground ~ Join us for another study by Kristi McLelland.

You can purchase the study book on Amazon for \$24.99
which includes video access

Mindelle Will will lead in homework discussion time,
and we will learn from Kristi via her DVD series.

Feel free to bring your beverage and dinner
during this fun time with friends!

Women's Luncheon with Erica Wiggernhorn

Date – Saturday, April 22

Time – 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Cost - \$15.00 each

(reserve a whole table for \$60.00 – 6 chairs)

Reservations can be made at the Women's Ministry Table
starting the first week of February



“Remembering God”

We cannot afford to forget God in these areas of life.
If we ***“Remember God,”*** how would these parts of our life look?

March 12 – “Remembering God – Illness”

Pastor Anthony Whitlatch

March 19 – “Remembering God – Politics”

Pastor Anthony Whitlatch

March 26 – “Remember God – In the Work Place”

Al Fadi

April 2 – “Remembering God – In Church”

Al Fadi

April 9 – EASTER – “Remember God – The Resurrection”

Al Fadi

April 16 – “Remembering God – Sexuality”

Al Fadi

April 23 – “Remembering God – Parenting and Grandparenting”

Al Fadi

April 30 – “Remembering God – Money”

Al Fadi

May 7 – “Remembering God – Marriage”

Al Fadi

Have a friend or family who needs to ***“Remember God”***
in one of these areas of life?

Be intentional to invite people to this series
and see what God will do!



Summer Medical Mission Trip for Jada Britt . . .

Would you help make it possible for Jada Britt, daughter of Quinton and Lori Britt, to raise \$3,800.00 to be part of an upcoming summer medically based

Mission Trip to East Africa?

Jada is a Junior at California Baptist University studying to becoming a Physician Assistant in either pediatrics or surgery. She will be serving in East Africa for three weeks working in hospitals and clinics and sharing the gospel. There will be eight individuals on her team and she is currently training and preparing to serve field workers in helping in whatever aspects of life they need. Her goal is more than volunteering, it is to spread God's love and fulfill the great commission through the service of healthcare.

Please pray for Jada and her team as they travel across the country on this journey. She is taking a step of faith this summer by going into another country for the very first time. Also, be praying for her as she shares the gospel and that God is able to work through her to reach those she meets.

Checks can be made out to FBC earmarked "Jada Britt."



Music Solos at FBC on Sunday Morning and Evenings

Because we live-stream our Worship Services in real-time over the internet at FBC, we are not allowed to use of pre-recorded music. Most soloists and special music use pre-recorded music tracks and the internet censors this. The internet seeks to support music copyright laws on pre-recorded music.

Using published music requires following clear copyright guidelines. It is illegal to ignore these copyright laws.

We all enjoy solos from our people at our concerts and special music events and we do not live-stream our concerts over the internet. We also seek to follow copyright guidelines.

Pastor Roger

Resurrection Sunday

Celebrate Easter at FBC

Easter Sunday, April 9

8:00 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

9:30 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

11:00 am – Worship Service in the Worship Center

**Special Children's Program at 9:30 and 11:00 am
in Kid City for children grade 6 and younger.**

**Youth are encouraged to attend the 9:30 am
Service in the Worship Center with Pastor Scott.**

***FREE Breakfast
in the Café, Quad and MAC
from 7:00 to 11:00 am***

Scrambled Eggs with Cheese, Rosemary Roasted
Potatoes, Bacon and Sausage Links, Cinnamon
French Toast, Vanilla Sour Cream Pancakes,
and Assorted Breakfast Pastries



***FREE Lunch in the
Café, Quad and MAC
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm***

Cheese Tortellini with Sausage Bolognese,
Florentine Omelet "Bake" with Spinach, Tomato,
Fresh Mozzarella, Potato, Cheese and Egg,
Rosemary Roasted Potatoes, Sweet and Sour Meatballs,
Green Curry Meatballs with Cilantro and Scallions,
Italian Chicken Cutlets with Fresh Tomato Sauce
and Parmesan, Cookies, Brownies and Assorted Pastries

Beverage Station Served All Day

Coffee, Juice, Flavored Water



Reserve Your Spot NOW and Experience the Holy Land in 2024

Join Pastor Roger and Dianna as they lead you on a ten-day trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land – **March 6-16, 2024.**

A trip to the Holy Land is a powerful journey that can ignite your Christian faith through seeing the places Jesus walked, worked miracles, died and rose from the dead. Here are just a few reasons why you should visit Jerusalem and the Holy Land:

- You will learn that the city where Christ sacrificed Himself on the cross is a real place.
- Visiting the Holy Land will give you a better sense of what is written in the Bible.
- To understand the disciples as fishers of men, you need to visit and take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.
- While on this trip you will connect with God and your faith in ways you can't at home.
- Did you know that the Dead Sea is the lowest place on Earth?
- While visiting the Western Wall you will have the opportunity to leave a prayer note tucked in the wall.

☐ **Yes, I/We are interested in visiting the Holy Land
with Pastor Roger and Dianna**

Signed _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

**For more information tear off this form
and drop in the Offering Plate.**



and drop it in the offering plate.

Israel Trip – March 2 – 12, 2023

Please pray for Pastor Roger and Dianna Ball and the following individuals as they head to Israel from March 2 – 12, 2023

Pastor Lee Baker
Skip and Tena Cheely
Amanda Fones
Sue Goodwin
Jennifer Harris
Ray and Mary Horst
John and Sherri Lucki
Matthew and Heather Malmin
Mike and Suzie Roderick
Ken and Rebecca Sandoval
Sharmon Steil and Addie Steil
Rob and Melissa Swanson
Loretta White and Ian White

Sharon Ball
Drew and Linda Fones
Violet Frye
Pauline Harner
Wesley Hauver
Debra Hurley
Kathy Norton
Michelle Pfeiffer
Scott Shehan
Tommy and Joy Smith
David and Ali Tso



**I/We would like more information on
visiting the Holy Land with Pastor Roger
and Dianna from March 6-16, 2024**

Signed _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

**For more information tear off this form
and drop it in the offering plate.**



Our Information is Incomplete Without YOU!

***It is time to update the information in our
FBC Data Base and we want to include you.
Please fill out the information below and drop
it in the offering plate.***

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Birthdate _____

Children's Names and Birth Dates _____

Wedding Anniversary _____

Are you a:

____ Visitor

____ Regular Attender

____ Member

Managing Loss and Grief

Top Five Inner-Heartbreaks of Life

by Teresa Kovac

1. **Loss of desire to go on:** apathy and depression (e.g., food not tasting as good, company not enjoyable, alone-time painful too etc., colors seem dimmed, lack of desire and goals and/or the lack of energy to seek those desires and goals). Can be complicated by imagined and real guilt.
2. **An adverse condition:** temporary memory or mental function loss, chest pain, many other symptoms can express. Associated with but not limited to shut down or suppression of the loss of desire to go on.
3. **Unwanted** world change: requires adjustments that seem unattractive and less than what was before.
4. **Testing of faith** as death separates us from sensing God, especially if we have focused on being blessed and only know a God of blessing.
5. **A longing for what is lost, e.g., coping, defense mechanisms and/or things that made life good:** desire to return to the state of before the pain, trauma, loss, shame and guilt, to dwell in past, or avoid dealing with the past.

The following core truths need to be reviewed as needed for each.

1. **Grieve with hope.** Grieve (John 11:35), only with hope

(1 Thessalonians 4:13)

When you feel the loss of desire to go on: On the one hand, you can't skip grief just because you have hope (Job 13:15, Psalm 42, Psalm 23:4, Psalm 61:2b). God expects us to honestly lament (Lamentations 3, Psalm 22); tears are healthy (John 11:35, Psalm 80:5, Psalm 126:5). Loss causes a wound; healing is a process so expect a season of grief (Ecclesiastes 3:4-5, Psalm 30) and expect that God, not we, determines how long the season is. While we can't set a deadline, we can do healthy things that shorten the time required. Knowing of hope is not internalizing to all our biological systems (it is like needing to clear the caches); nor is it all that is involved in obeying the steps to joy (see below). If there is sin, it must be repented and forgiven (James 5:16).

On the other hand, without hope it is difficult to mature grief into joy. Jesus is the source of hope, our salvation (Romans 15:13, Psalm 119:14, 1 Timothy 1:1). Toward salvation: Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, John 3:3, John 14:6, Romans 10:9-11, 2 Corinthians 5:15, Revelation 3:20.

2. Practical care is needed while in the shadow of death. (Luke 21:34)

When you face adverse conditions think “DEER.” “DEER” = drink water, eat, exercise, rest. This requires us to be patient in healing as we would be from a physical wound, wait while taking care. God is still there, there are just dark clouds obscuring Him. Joy is still possible, there are just dark clouds hiding the path to joy. (Psalm 23:4 key word is through, Luke 21:34, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (body a temple), 2 Corinthians 3:16-17 (removing veil), 1 Timothy 4:7-8 (requires our discipline).

3. God is in control. (Isaiah 45:6-7)

When an unwanted world change occurs – think daily: God, who is good and righteous and just, is in control (James 1:13, Deuteronomy 32:4, 10-11, Psalm 145: all but especially verse 13-14, Ezra 9:15, Psalm 50:6, Psalm 116:5). No matter how awful it looks now (Psalm 34:19), the end God will bring about is good and beautiful and right (Revelation 21:4, Deuteronomy 32:39). We can rest in His providence as we adjust to new circumstances (Psalm 46:1), that there is a path forward (Philippians 4:13, Proverbs 3:5), a way of escape from the misery (Job 1:22, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Psalm 3, Psalm 27).

4. Every earthly relationship is a temporary gift from God, but one with repercussions for the eternal age to come. (Ephesians 1-2:10)

When you expect prosperity without trial, change your thinking: God determined our number of days from before the foundation of the world. (Psalm 139:16b, Psalm 39, Psalm 24, Matthew 13:35, Ephesians 1:1, 3-6, 2:10, Acts 15:18). Our loved ones also had a number of days set by God (Psalm 90:3-5), and our time with them was His gift. (James 1:17, Psalm 90:5b-6, 10-12). We never owned them (Job 1:21) we never had a right to them (1 Corinthians 4:7). God wouldn't leave us here without having a use for us without our loved ones (Psalm 90:15-17, Hebrews 13:16).

5. Seek comfort in Scripture, Prayer and Service. (James 5:13-17)

When you have a loved one who dies in a difficult circumstance: remember, our loved ones who passed away only want good for us in difficult circumstances: even if they were flawed here (Luke 16). God wants only good for us (John 10:10, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 34:18), even if awful

things happen now (1 Samuel 2:6-7). If we have forgiven, we want good for others, even when we sometimes observe ourselves failing at providing it (1 John 2:6). If we have not forgiven, we need to recognize the gap in our obedience, and that we are poisoning ourselves and expecting others to suffer (Matthew 6:14, Matthew 18:21-22, Matthew 10:8). God always left us free choice (Revelation 3:20), but he is also powerful and has a mighty desire to save (Zephaniah 3:17); we never know the status of our loved ones only He does (Romans 11:29, Deuteronomy 29:29a).

When you long for the good times of the past: If suffering, pray (Psalm 130:5), including with others (James 5:13). Read and meditate on scripture (Hebrews 4:12). Then do and serve (Ephesians 2:10): We are not meant as containers to be filled with comfort, but as conduits of comfort: helping others helps us (1 Peter 2:9). If we hope on the Lord, we can trust that we will soar again (Isaiah 40:31).

☐ **I would like more information on handling grief and loss.**

Name _____

Cell Phone _____

Email address _____

**Please tear off, place in the offering plate
and Teresa Kovac will contact you.**

Would You Invest in Young Families?

We need two or three individuals to watch children for the Young Families Small Group every other Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at FBC beginning in January.

____ YES, I would like to invest in our Young Families

____ I can help one time each month OR

____ I can help two times each month



Name _____

Email Address _____

**Tear off and place in the offering plate or
contact Pastor Anthony at 480-766-2395 for more information.**

God Stories - February 2023



1. Good friends of FBC have an estranged son that they have not heard from in quite a while. He was living out of state, but a couple of weeks ago he showed up at an AZ Motor Vehicle Department that just happened to have one of our FBC members working at. She was able to connect with him and relay back to his mom and dad that he is living back in AZ and physically ok. Praising God for providing them with reassurance!

2. He started coming to the 6:00 pm service during the summer. Looking to reconnect with God amidst debilitating depression coming from various other personal issues, he found what he was looking for - a willing ear to listen to his story. After telling his story to an FBC pastor that night, he started attending a morning service and Sunday school. As he became closer to God, he also felt even more attacks from the enemy. Through the various ministries of FBC as well as council from a Christian friend, he is now doing much better. The depression comes and goes but he now has a firm foundation in Jesus. For 2023, his goal is "to help people in the same way this church helped me."

3. He started attending the 6:00 pm service and was so thankful that FBC offered a night service that worked with his work schedule. When the school year came, he brought his son to attend Awana while he worshipped. During the fall God put it on his heart that he needed a career change - he felt he wasn't moving forward in life and becoming stagnant. It was scary. God was calling him to leave the only profession he had known and a place of employment that he had comfortably worked at for many years. What was even scarier was that God was calling him into a line of work that he knew nothing about and was blindly jumping into. With counsel from an FBC pastor, he decided to go in for an interview. In the interview he told the interviewer that he was a Christian and they said that they appreciated that. He got a call right away that they wanted him for the job. After leaving his old job and a week of training for the new job, he is enjoying himself immensely and thanks God for pushing him in this new, exciting direction.

4. Our FBC children collected \$600.00 to help send our Missionaries Ryan & Shelby Webb and family, back to Papua New Guinea, an island north of Australia.

5. Kid City has 48 dedicated leaders who are doing Kingdom work every Sunday.

6. This year my wife and I have been working with a single mom (young adult). She would come to church without a Bible. My wife gifted her one and since then she's been coming to church with that Bible and has read through Genesis. We have befriended her and our children have become close friends. We've also been of assistance in her struggles as a single mother. God has blessed us and her with friendship and we've been able to disciple her. FBC has also blessed her family - she told us she was able to provide for her children during Christmas.



7. This year the church plant has hosted and conducted a series of Bible studies and social gatherings (fellowship activities). Through these studies and gatherings, we have established multiple friendships and helped people in their walk with God. Even those who didn't know God are starting to seek Him. Two people were able to be baptized and others are diving deeper into the Bible. Throughout this experience of hosting and teaching the studies, my son has opened his heart and mind to the will and way of God and is wanting to do kids Bible studies. These Bible studies have become an impact on adults as well as children who attend, as both adults and children are wanting more Bible studies and or gatherings.

8. Back in August, a teenager, resident of the Town of Guadalupe, was gunned down. He was a student at Marcos de Niza High School. The friends and family of the teen had set-up a memorial near the site where the boy was killed. Trish and I felt the need to go to that memorial and offer prayer. Trish put material together, including Bibles to hand out. Myself and another went and spoke to a family and prayed over them. The family we spoke to knew the boy personally and were very grateful we were there. They were comforted in their moment of grief.

9. Earlier this year the church plant hosted an outdoor Easter service. Through this event at Kiwanis Park we were able to share our testimonies at the end of the service with a homeless person who ended up receiving Christ. We also met two families who we invited to our Bible studies. They showed up, and one family has remained with us. It was also great to see the volunteers who attend the church plant Bible studies engage in acts of service and sharing Christ with strangers at the Easter service.

10. During 2022 it has been such a huge blessing to see people give to the church plant. It is heartwarming to hear testimonies from donors of why they feel called to donate. Their feelings line up to why my wife and I said "Yes" to church planting in the first place. It is amazing to see people from

all walks of life coming together to give for the expansion of the Kingdom. Every gift is a miracle that only God can orchestrate.

11. The youth were previously on a waitlist for Summer Camp in Glorieta, New Mexico, but were recently able to fully lock in spots due to a policy change that allowed for more students. This is one of the premier camps in the southwest, and a favorite of our students!

12. We received a ton of positive feedback on the Christmas Eve services. People enjoyed the special food, the wide range of music from traditional to contemporary, the unique and fun preaching, the worship center décor, and the gifts for children.



13. We had a large number of volunteers dedicate hours and hours to band rehearsals, food preparation and service, cleanup, candles, tech, and many more positions to make Christmas Eve a success. FBC and visitors were blessed tremendously by their service to Jesus.

14. Our youth group has been excited about the possibility of doing more short-term mission work, and have been requesting to go on a trip soon. There are three potential trips in the works, which may start to come to fruition in 2023.

15. Can you see God at work? One person writes, "It was interesting to note that when I did the self-assessments within *The Dark Side of Leadership* that I have a dominant characteristic of being Codependent. I suspect that is not uncommon being an adult child of a violent alcoholic (and I was the scapegoat of the family). It was interesting when I recently read the book *Adult Children of Alcoholics* to find just how accurately it defined the relationships that merge in that environment. It's also been interesting for me to identify how the personality traits that have resulted my being successful are, in many ways, also my weaknesses. Looking back, the Lord blessed me by exposing me to His redemptive grace through the Youth Ministry and fellowship at FBCT. That's why I stated that FBCT is my happy place last Sunday. But it's more than the memories of FBCT, and more about spending time praying and contemplating the things of the Spirit. I think the two go hand-in-hand and when I neglect the Spiritual side of my life, I drift towards my own dark side."

16. Reverence for God leads to peace. People need the Lord. One person said, "It is strange that California has the most rigid gun laws in the nation yet they have many mass shootings and killings and this happens and happens and happens. Gun policy experts said that a national culture that accepts routine violence, combined with an inability to enforce gun

controls in one state that is surrounded by others where rules are more lax means that California will continue to grapple with public mass violence. Pray for California (and your neighborhood) as it ACCEPTS ROUTINE VIOLENCE-yes-that is a cultural problem-and if there were no guns in the USA these angry people would use knives, bombs, fire, flame throwers etc. So, the weapon isn't the problem-it is the lack of self-control and the glorification in movies and 'games' and 'video games' and the newspapers and reporters saying 'get angry-you should feel that it is the other's guy fault ALL the time ... get even ... it is THAT CULTURE that creates this problem."

17. Exciting to watch God bless. Two kids, missionary children, are raising money so they can return to FBCT in the next two months to spend a couple months with their youth group, friends and Grand-parents. Pray for Avery and Rylynn, children of Ryan and Shelby Webb who are full-time missionaries in Papua, New Guinea to the Manam people. The FBCT Teenagers are also raising money to help them return to FBCT soon.

18. We thank God for this FBCT teenager. Hello, my name is Grace Blum. I am going with Valley Christian to Turkana, Kenya. This is an amazing opportunity to serve God by ministering to Kenyan children. While at Valley I have been able to sing in the choir and I have been cheering on the school's cheer team for four years. This engage trip is an exciting opportunity to represent Christ, my school and minister to children in a place I have wanted to visit since I was young. I love serving other people in any way I can, so I am really looking forward to meeting and serving the people of Kenya. Thank you for considering to help me reach my goal of ministering in Kenya. You can support this ministry by donating and/ or praying for me as I prepare for this life-changing experience. Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your prayers and support.



19. God at work. On Friday, January 27-29, our 4th – 6th grade children pack-up and climb on a bus to head to Winter Camp to encounter God and have some fun. Pray for our 27 children, the leaders and the Children's Director. Sharmon Steil. Pray for safety and transformation to follow Jesus.



A Christian is a living sermon,
whether or not he preaches a word.

**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

**March 5 – “The City of the Lord”
(Ezekiel 47:1-48:35)**

Pastor Anthony Whitlatch (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

March 12 – “Remembering God – Illness”

Pastor Anthony Whitlatch (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

March 19 – “Remembering God – Politics”

Pastor Anthony Whitlatch (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

March 26 – “Remembering God – Work Place”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 2 – “Remembering God – Church”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

April 9 – “Remembering the Resurrection”

Al Fadi (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 Worship Center)

Sunday Evening Messages

**February 26 – “Rejoice – Peace Through Grace”
(Romans 5:1-2) PIT Tom Croke**

**March 5 – “Rejoice – Suffering”
(Romans 5:3-5) PIT Tom Croke**

**March 12 – “Rejoice – Reconciliation”
(Romans 5:6-11) PIT Tom Croke**

“True Worship”

February 26, 2023
Pastor Anthony Whitlatch

What is True Worship?

Ezekiel 40:1-4 - Vision Commission

Ezekiel 40:5-47 - New Temple Area

Ezekiel 40:48-41:26 - New Temple

Ezekiel 42:1-20 - Temple Rooms - Used by the Priests

Ezekiel 43:1-12 - Glory of God returns

Ezekiel 43:13-27 - Alter is Restored - Purified - Prepared for service

Ezekiel 44:1-31 - Priesthood is Ceremonially Restored

Ezekiel 45-46 - Worship Restored

Big Picture - Restoration of _____ worship of God

The opposite of true worship is a _____

John 4:20 – *“Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.”*

John 4:21 – *Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.*

John 4:22 – *“You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.*

John 4:23 – *“But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.*

John 4:24 – *“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

1. True Worship of God begins with a _____
2. True Worship _____ all aspects of who _____ is
3. True Worship is _____ according _____

- a. In the Old Covenant – temple, sacrifices, priests, festivals and sabbaths
- b. In the New Covenant –

1 Peter 2:5 – you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:11 – Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

True Worship is
