

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

March 5-Numbers 23-25
March 6-Numbers 26-27
March 7-Numbers 28-30
March 8-Numbers 31-32
March 9-Numbers 33-34
March 10-Numbers 35-36
March 11-Deuteronomy 1-2
March 12-Deuteronomy 3-4

Birthdays

Patricia Blount (3/6)
Rebecca Sandoval (3/6)
Timothy Sandoval (3/6)
Josiah Bender (3/8)
Michelle Pfeiffer-Johnson (3/8)
Mark Burritt (3/10)
Nicholas Barbarisi (3/12)

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 (2/26)
Budget Plan	\$ 27,766	\$ 249,894
Giving (Donations)	\$ 14,922	\$ 157,477
	\$ -12,844 (Shortage)	\$ -92,417 (Shortage)
GF Expenses	\$ 48,113	\$ 169,944
Faith Promise	Last Week	YTD (2/26)
Budget Plan	\$ 1,078	\$ 9,702
Giving (Donations)	\$ 520	\$ 5,709
	\$ -558 (Shortage)	\$ -3,993 (Shortage)
FP Expenses	\$ 3,708	\$ 7,404

Legacy Cumulative Debt Reduction

	Last Week	Since Jan 2019
Legacy Designated	\$ 315	\$ 504,794

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 Di-anna. 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

WE
LOVE
GOD
PEOPLE

Accepting, loving and chal-
lenging people with God's
truth

March 5, 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

Grace Greater Than Our Sin
Welcome and Announcements
Open the Eyes of My Heart
Glorify Thy Name
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“The City of the Lord”
Communion

9:30 am-Contemporary Worship

Your Grace Is Enough
Welcome and Announcements
Your Great Name
Worthy Is The Lamb
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“The City of the Lord”
Communion

11:00 am-Alternative Contemporary Worship

The Gospel
In Tenderness
Prayer
Message-Pastor Anthony Whitlatch
“The City of the Lord”
Communion
Offering
Jesus Thank You
Christ Is Mine Forevermore
Announcements

6:00 pm-Evening Worship

Welcome
Rejoice
He Will Hold Me Fast
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Prayer
Message-PIT Tom Croke
“Rejoice-Suffering”

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	\$ 20,877.00
Under Budget	\$ 118,570.00

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	\$ 7,390.00
Under Budget	\$ 142,610.00

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, March 5

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
12:15 pm-Men’s Ministry Leadership Team Meeting
5:45 pm-Awana Club
6:00 pm-Evening Worship Service

Monday, March 6

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

Tuesday, March 7

9:30 am-Women’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Thursday, March 9

5:00 pm-Junior High and High School Music Hangout
6:00 pm-Junior High and High School Youth Group
7:00 pm-Finance Committee Meeting

Saturday, March 11

7:50 am-Men’s Breakfast

Consider These

“The Dead Sea is the dead sea because it continually receives and never gives.”

“Thank the Lord that you can give instead of depending on others to give to you.”

“Charity begins at home and generally dies from lack of outdoor exercise.”

Reflect

Reflect . . .

How do you think looking back each week, writing down all of God’s provisions, and setting aside money as a thank you offering to God would help you be more generous?

Prayer . . .

Heavenly Father, help me learn your Word on finances and generosity and to trust you to guide me and provide for me all the days of my life. 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 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)

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

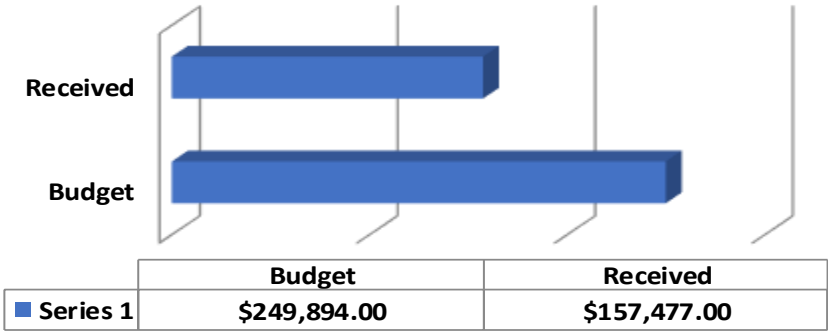
We appreciate your faithful giving to FBC and its ministries.

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
\$249,894.00
YTD Money Received
\$157,477.00
UNDER Budget
\$-92,417.00

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

March 5 – Grilled Chicken Rice Bowl with Beans, Slaw, Avocado, Salsa, Tortillas, Salad Bar and Dessert

March 12 – Chicken Quesadillas with Sweet Onions and Peppers, Sour Cream, Chips and Salsa, Salad Bar and Dessert

March 19 – Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Rice, Vegetables, Salad Bar and Dessert

March 26 – Chicken and Italian Sausage over Penne Pasta, Peppers and Onions, Caesar Salad, Bread, Salad Bar and Dessert





(Birth through

6th Grade)

Preschool and Kindergarten

Bible Story: Jesus and the Little Children

Bible Point: I Can Love

Elementary

9:30 am Bible Story: Jesus Showed Grace to Others

11:00 am Bible Story: Saul Hurts 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 laughter and warm smiles bear witness to the welcoming, loving God that we all know.

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, April 1, 6:00 am to 3:00 pm

Location – Washington Park - Payson
(Moderate – 3.5 Miles – 800 Feet Elevation)

Bring: water, snacks, sunscreen – lunch at Chili's

Hike up to an abandoned train tunnel,
then finish hiking through an old fish hatchery oasis.

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
helps create

Ministries
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.

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



All-Church Baby Shower

In just a few short weeks (March 22) our Pastor-In-Training Tom Croke and his wife, Sheriess, are expecting their first child – **a baby girl.**

Join us in expressing our love for this special blessing God is giving to them by praying for them and showering them with diapers and baby wipes.

There will be a special table set-up in the lobby on Sunday, March 19, and Sunday, March 26, where you can place your diapers and baby wipes.



“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."



Praying Daily

Prayer is sort of like an unlocked door with a giant, red-lettered sign on it that says:

"Welcome. Feel Free to Take Whatever You Need." Inside is the storehouse of all that God

is. He invites us to share it all. He does not intend for us to stay on the outside and struggle all alone with the perplexities of life, and He not only invites us to come in but to stay in, in order that His "Grace and peace be yours in fullest measure, through the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord" (II Peter 1:2) . . .

It is an ongoing process, not just an occasional religious-sounding speech we make to a nebulous divinity "out there somewhere."

**Prayer is meant to be a part of our lives,
like breathing and thinking and talking.**

Gloria Gaither
"Decisions"

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 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.**



Church Action Meeting

There will be a Church Action Meeting on
Sunday, March 19, during each of our
three Morning Worship Services
for the purpose of voting on church leadership.

The following men will be running for **Deacons**:

Adam Bachman (1st term), Ron Huver (2nd term), Ron Kielmeyer (2nd term),
Jeff Warrick (1st term) and Mike Werner (1st term)



Adam
Bachman



*Ron
Huver



*Ron
Kielmeyer



Jeff
Warrick



Mike
Werner

The following women will be running for **Deaconess**:

Miranda Bender (1st term), Michelle Pfeiffer-Johnson (1st term),
Nancy Rawls (1st term), Marybeth Warrick (2nd term) and
Jean Werner (1st term)



Miranda
Bender



Michelle
Pfeiffer-Johnson



Nancy
Rawls



*Marybeth
Warrick



Jean
Werner

Also included on the ballot are:
Mike Roderick-**Financial Secretary** and
Don Halver-**Church Treasurer** serving
one-year terms.



Mike
Roderick



Don
Halver

Thank you . . .

Thank you to Sylvon Iyavoo,
Jeff Wieland and Stan
Osland for serving as a
Deacon. Thank you to
Cynthia Enfinger, Nancy
Brooks, Jamie Flesher, Chris
Hammond, Robin Spencer
and Lacy Vega for serving as
a Deaconess. Thank you to
Gary Maack for serving as
Financial Secretary.

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.**

Praising God





The wisdom and doctrine of Scripture teach that the experience of celebrating God is the core of worship. It is the quintessence of praise and thanksgiving – the most perfect manifestation of a heart that gratefully fellowships with the One who provides life and all the gifts of living. In fact, a grateful heart is not only the greatest virtue, it is the seedbed for all other virtues.

When we are caught up in the celebration of God there is neither room nor time for the invasion of negative living. As we rejoice before the Lord, as we serve Him in the area of our calling, as we enter into the love that surrounds our days, as we give thanks to Him for His kindness and faithfulness, we celebrate God.

Luci Swindoll
(You Bring the Confetti)

God Stories – March 2023

1. Be patient with anyone with dementia or Parkinson's or related health challenges. Mental decline creates insecurity. Be on the look-out for confusion in the evening hours, disorientation, inability to speak or understand language, making things up, mental confusion, or inability to recognize common things. Be careful and kind in your response to a person with memory loss.
2. Join our Christlike Marriage on Sundays, at 11:00 am in Room 118 to learn what is the real purpose for marriage as a Christian. Also learn what Biblical love is. Join Don and Tracy Harbin in discovering how to experience more joy in your marriage. This class is open to anyone who wants to invest in their marriage. 
3. Pray for the thirty-eight Christians from FBCT to embrace Jesus in Israel from March 2-12. Pray for this group people on this life-changing trip.
4. Heartbroken people get help from *GriefShare* Classes. Help and encourage someone following the death of a loved one to attend *GriefShare Weekly Seminars* from Sunday, February 5, through May 7.
5. Please be praying for a church in Texas as they consider supporting our church plant in Guadalupe.
6. Praise God for the record low Church debt on the Worship Center which is now at \$600,000 - down from \$1,829,853 on February 6, 2018. Thank you very much. God bless you. Please designate your money to Legacy Debt Reduction at FBCT
7. Greg Jones recently served on a short-term Mission Trip in Nigeria. Greg says "Things have been going very well. I shared in a church service on Sunday about helping people to become Christians and then helping them to become mature in Christ. We started a 2-day training with about 20 pastors who had attended our training last year. We were impressed with how they are now implementing what we taught. We gave them further instructions and encouragement. Next, we started 3 days of training with a new group of 25 people. They also seem to be understanding the principles that we are teaching, and it is new to them. They are asking good questions." 
8. 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."

9. A woman came to GriefShare having lost her mom, after moving to Arizona specifically to care for her. She had no other relatives in the area, and no friends here. She was withdrawn and tearful at first, and almost relieved to be around people, as she came to in-person GriefShare. Weeks later she was still not "right" but she was laughing with the group recounting dropping her phone in the toilet and losing for a time her one ongoing connection to the world including her sister. She eventually moved on, and we had not seen her for a time, and then she rejoined from Atlanta on Zoom after the pandemic hit. She was with us just to touch base and get re-grounded in the new environment of again being in involuntary isolation. Church commitments and family commitments (she is now near a sister's family) and time zone challenges quickly moved her beyond us, well on her way to a new normal.



10. A woman in rural Colorado lost her husband, and could not maintain the farm. She moved to Arizona temporarily with her son's family, thereby suddenly losing much of her support network, her church, and her daily routine and not wanting to impose on her son. Then the health issues descended. We prayed with her through surgery, another move, and more. In the midst of her grief experience she went to a concert where the music leader gave out roses to some of the ladies - and she received one! She was inspired by his heart and touched by its beauty as well as the beauty of the music. She continued to grow in health and in service, joined a church in Arizona, and became a caregiver for another family.

**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 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)

April 16 – “Remembering God – Sexuality”

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

Sunday Evening Messages

March 5 – “Rejoice – Suffering”

(Romans 5:3-5) PIT Tom Croke

March 12 – “Rejoice – Reconciliation”

(Romans 5:6-11) PIT Tom Croke

March 12 – “Rejoice – The Free Gift”

(Romans 5:12-21) Pastor Peter Molina

“The City of the Lord”

March 5, 2023
Pastor Anthony Whitlatch

Genesis 2:1 – *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. (2) By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. (3) Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. (4) This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven. (5) Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the Lord God had not sent rain upon the earth, and there was no man to cultivate the ground. (6) But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. (7) Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. (8) The Lord God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. (9) Out of the ground the Lord God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (10) Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden; and from there it divided and became four rivers. (11) The name of the first is Pishon; it flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. (12) The gold of that land is good; the bdellium and the onyx stone are there. (13) The name of the second river is Gihon; it flows around the whole land of Cush. (14) The name of the third river is Tigris; it flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. (15) Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.*

Ezekiel 47:1 – *Then he brought me back to the door of the house; and behold, water was flowing from under the threshold of the house toward the east, for the house faced east. And the water was flowing down from under, from the right side of the house, from south of the altar. (2) He brought me out by the way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate by way of the gate that faces east. And behold, water was trickling from the south side. (3) When*

the man went out toward the east with a line in his hand, he measured a thousand cubits, and he led me through the water, water reaching the ankles. (4) Again he measured a thousand and led me through the water, water reaching the knees. Again he measured a thousand and led me through the water, water reaching the loins. (5) Again he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not ford, for the water had risen, enough water to swim in, a river that could not be forded. (6) He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen this?" then he brought me back to the bank of the river. (7) Now when I had returned, behold, on the bank of the river there were very many trees on the one side and on the other. (8) Then he said to me, "These waters go out toward the eastern region and go down into the Arabah; then they go toward the sea, being made to flow into the sea, and the waters of the sea become flesh. (9) "It will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes, will live. And there will be very many fish, for these waters go there and the others become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes. (10) "And it will come about that fishermen will stand beside it; from Engedi to Eneglaim there will be a place for the spreading of nets. Their fish will be according to their kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea, very many. (11) "But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. (12) "By the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will not fail. They will bear every month because their water flows from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

Ezekiel 47:13-48:35a - _____ of the People of
God and Divisions (Land/City)

Ezekiel 48b - *"and the name of the city from that day shall be, 'the Lord is there.'"*

Revelation 21:1 – *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. (2) And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down*

out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. (3) And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, (4) and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." (5) And he who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

Revelation 21:22 – *I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. (23) And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. (24) The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. (25) In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; (26) and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; (27) and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of Life.*

Revelation 22:1 – *Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, (2) in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (3) There will be longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; (4) they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. (5) And there will no longer be any night; and they will not have need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God will illumine them; and they will reign forever and ever.*

**Repent, Believe, Receive Eternal Life by Faith
Live to Dwell in the Presence of God Forever**