



**JULY 3, 2025**

**Offering a seat at God's table for an adventurous life with Christ.**

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**SERMON SCRIPTURE FOR JULY 6:**

**1 Timothy 4:7-15**

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**JUNE 29 ATTENDANCE: 162**

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### **OUT OF THE PULPIT** **From Pastor Jim Coston**

For years, First Baptist has been blessed by our faithful Greeters—those friendly folks who open the doors to the Worship Building, offer a warm hello, and help point the way to the Sanctuary. But as important as that welcome is, we're expanding the mission.

Last week, I met with our Greeters for a time of training and vision casting. We talked about moving beyond just opening doors. We're equipping our Greeters to engage more meaningfully with visitors and new guests—asking simple but thoughtful questions like, *"What brings you here today?"* or *"Where are you from?"* Our hope is to help new faces feel noticed, known, and gently connected into the life of our church.

**But here's the exciting part: YOU'RE GOING TO BE PART OF THIS TOO!**

Going forward, we'll still have Door Openers. But the rest of the Greeter team will take on a new role—as **Guides**. Their job? To spot visitors, start a friendly conversation, and then—here's the key—**connect that guest to someone like you.**

Let's say a Guide meets a new guest from Chicago. That Guide might know the Bretzes or Gary Tannenbaum also hail from the Windy City. So, the Guide will walk the guest over, make the introduction—"You're both from Chicago!"—and a real, natural conversation begins.

In the coming Sundays, don't be surprised if a Guide taps you on the shoulder and says, "Hey, I'd like you to meet someone." We're asking you to take it from there. Be yourself. Make the guest feel welcome. **And most importantly—invite them to sit with you in Worship.**

That simple act of hospitality can transform a one-time visit into the beginning of a spiritual journey. It may just enrich your Sunday experience too. The Greeter ministry involves EVERYONE!

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## **Green for Green: Beautifying the Path to Worship and Wonder**

Our church campus is a place of welcome, worship, and wonder—especially for our children and first-time guests. But one area that sees the most foot traffic is also the one in greatest need: the **worn-out path leading to both our Children's Ministry and the Sanctuary.**

That's why we're launching the "**Green for Green**" campaign—an initiative to raise **\$30,000** for installing **durable, low-maintenance artificial turf and landscaping** in this highly visible and widely used space.

This transformation will not only create a **clean, beautiful, and inviting walkway** to key areas of our church—it will also provide a **versatile outdoor venue** for:

- Fellowship banquets
- Special worship services
- Community events
- Ministry gatherings, and more

We believe this is a wise investment that will **enhance the worship experience, support outreach, and reflect the excellence we strive for in every ministry area.**

Every gift—big or small—moves us closer to our goal. This would be above and beyond your regular tithing. Whether it's \$30 or \$3,000, your generosity will help us go from worn-out to welcoming.

**Here's how you can support "Green for Green":**

- **Give online** at [fbcscottsdale.church](https://fbcscottsdale.church), select "Green for Green-landscaping" from dropdown list
- **Drop a donation** marked "Green for Green" in the offering plate or the Offering Box in the back
- **Spread the word** and pray for the success of this effort

Let's come together as a church family to plant the seeds—so that beauty, fellowship, and ministry can grow in this space for years to come.

With gratitude,  
**First Baptist Church Facilities & Finance Committee**

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## **A MONTH IN THE LIFE OF FIRST BAPTIST SCOTTSDALE**

**June 2025**

- Attendance in the Sunday morning services and children ministry classes have been trending up. This is wonderful for a summer month.
- Gary & Cheryl Hope have volunteered to lead the Desert Disciples Sunday morning Grow Group. He is a retired pastor who came to our church seeking a home and offered to teach and enjoy the class. It is a huge blessing to have them part of our church and as leaders of Desert Disciples. **Thank you!**
- We must celebrate having 17 Junior Highers going to camp this week. Last year there were 7. **Please pray for them during the week.**
- We finished up with photos and updates to the Church Pictorial Directory on Sunday. It's been a few years since the last full update. It will be completed in the next couple of weeks. If you missed an

opportunity to have a photo or give us new information, please let me know at: [garyt148@cox.net](mailto:garyt148@cox.net). **It's never too late to update.**

- Through "I'll Fund That", the Junior High camp was able to receive what was needed. There were also a few generous church members who donated the money needed for new microphones, and the difference has been clear. **Thank you!**
- Having ice cream has added to our continuing conversations after church. On top of that, 2 meals after church are planned for the fall. The next opportunity for ice cream is July 27. These are a great opportunity to visit with old friends and meet new ones.
- We celebrated being a church in Scottsdale for 113 years this month. This is an amazing Christian legacy for the founders as we continue to share God's love for his people in this community and beyond. Council Woman Maryann McAllen came to share the history and importance of FBCScottsdale to the City.
- Greeter training took place last week. We are blessed to have many dedicated and gifted people serve in this area each week. Take a moment to greet the Greeters next Sunday. **Let one of them know if you want to be part of this fulfilling Sunday morning experience.**
- The team of John Stewart, Shawn Crosier, Katia Hertneck-Kitz, Craig Hazeltine, James Olson, and myself are continuing our search for a permanent worship leader.
- The MasterPeace kids' camp, "New Frontier", starts this month and has 20+ kids involved. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to showcase their talents and for others to serve. **If you would like to help, especially with building the set, contact Darla Holmes ([dholmes@fbcscoottsdale.org](mailto:dholmes@fbcscoottsdale.org)).**
- Canvas & Charcuterie and Poker Night were a big hit with much fun and fellowship.

Have a Blessed Month,  
Gary Tannenbaum

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## LET US KEEP OUR YOUTH IN PRAYER

**Our Junior Highers returned from their summer camp on Wednesday, and our High Schoolers will leave for their CIY Move Camp in Flagstaff on Monday, July 11, returning on Saturday, July 12.**

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Giving of our tithes and offerings to God is part of worship and discipleship.

To do this in faith, and to support God's ministry at First Baptist, you may use any of the following ways:

- In person using a Giving Envelope in the back of the pews
- Through the Church Center app
- Use QR code on screen or on back of Giving Envelopes
- Online at: <https://fbcs.churchcenter.com/giving>
- You may also mail checks to:

First Baptist Church of Scottsdale  
7025 E Osborn Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**Blessings!**

**Tithes and Offerings Budgeted for June: \$41,000**

**Tithes and Offerings received in June: \$41,448 — 101% of Budget**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Tithes and Offerings:**

**Budgeted: \$149,000**

**Received: \$140,651 — 94% of Budget**

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**The Sunday morning Grow Group “The Gospel  
According to Luke” has MOVED!  
It will now meet in the Chapel.**



FIRST BAPTIST

## SIX-MONTH NEW TESTAMENT READING PLAN



FIRST BAPTIST

We've begun a six-month New Testament reading plan! Below is a suggested schedule for you. We will publish several days of readings each week as a guide to help you keep on track.

### **Some background on Matthew:**

The Gospel of Matthew is attributed to **Matthew the tax collector**, one of Jesus' twelve disciples. The writer was deeply familiar with **Jewish scripture and tradition**, and wrote primarily for a **Jewish-Christian audience**.

The purpose of Matthew's Gospel is to **present Jesus as the long-awaited Jewish Messiah**, fulfilling Old Testament prophecies, and to show how the Kingdom of Heaven is breaking into the world through Him.

### **Big themes from Matthew 5 – 20**

#### **1. The Kingdom of Heaven**

- Jesus proclaims and demonstrates the arrival of God's **kingdom**—not a political reign, but God's rule over hearts and lives.
- Seen in **parables** (Matt. 13), **miracles**, and **teachings** that reveal the nature of the kingdom: unexpected, gracious, and upside-down compared to worldly systems.

#### **2. Righteousness from the Heart**

- In the **Sermon on the Mount** (Matt. 5–7), Jesus deepens the Law to address the **heart**, not just actions.
- True righteousness includes **humility, mercy, purity, and peace**.
- It's not about external religion, but **inward transformation** (e.g., anger, lust, revenge, love of enemies).

#### **3. Jesus' Authority**

- Jesus displays authority over **sickness, demons, nature, sin**, and even **death** (Matt. 8–9).
- He also claims the authority to **interpret the Law, forgive sins**, and demand **absolute allegiance** (Matt. 10, 16).
- His identity as **Messiah** and **Son of God** is gradually revealed and affirmed (esp. in Matt. 16:16–17:5).

#### **4. Discipleship and the Cost of Following Jesus**

- Jesus calls people to **follow Him** with full devotion, leaving behind security, relationships, and pride (Matt. 10, 19).
- Disciples are to embody **servanthood, forgiveness**, and **childlike humility** (Matt. 18–20).
- **Suffering** is part of the call (Matt. 10:16–39; 16:24).

#### **5. Opposition and Misunderstanding**

- Religious leaders (**Pharisees, scribes**) frequently **oppose** Jesus, challenging His authority and miracles (Matt. 9, 12, 15).
- Even **John the Baptist** questions Jesus, and the **disciples struggle** to fully understand His mission (Matt. 11, 16–17).
- Jesus predicts His **rejection, suffering, and death** multiple times (Matt. 16:21; 17:22; 20:17).

#### **6. Reversal of Expectations**

- Jesus consistently **upends cultural and religious assumptions**:
  - **Blessed are the poor**, not the powerful (Matt. 5).
  - **The last will be first** (Matt. 19–20).

- **Children**, women, Gentiles, and sinners are welcomed.
- Parables like the **Workers in the Vineyard** (Matt. 20) highlight God's **gracious generosity**, not human merit.

## 7. Mercy, Compassion, and Healing

- Jesus embodies God's **compassion** through frequent **healings**, care for the **marginalized**, and **mercy** toward sinners (Matt. 8–9, 14–15).
- His actions fulfill **Isaiah's prophecies** and reveal the character of the kingdom: **restoration** and **wholeness**.

DAY	READING		DAY	READING
July 1	Matthew 1 – 2		July 11	Matthew 21 – 22
July 2	Matthew 3 – 4		July 12	Matthew 23 – 24
July 3	Matthew 5 – 6		July 13	Matthew 25 – 26
July 4	Matthew 7 – 8		July 14	Matthew 27 – 28
July 5	Matthew 9 – 10		July 15	Mark 1
July 6	Matthew 11 – 12		July 16	Mark 2
July 7	Matthew 13 – 14		July 17	Mark 3
July 8	Matthew 15 – 16		July 18	Mark 4
July 9	Matthew 17 – 18		July 19	Mark 5
July 10	Matthew 19 – 20		July 20	Mark 6

# SUNDAYS AT FIRST BAPTIST

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**In the Children's Building — 9:10:15a, and 10:15-11:45a**

In July preschoolers will shine light on the greatest Word—the Word of God—the Bible! This week they'll hear about how King Josiah finds God's Word. The elementary age kiddos are studying the Truth about the Bible in July. This week they will learn how the Bible is God's Word, so they can know it is true.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**In the Youth Rooms — 9:00-10:15a**

On Sunday mornings the youth continue their discussion on the meaning of Joy in Philippians.

## ADULT GROW GROUP CLASSES

**9:15a-10:15a**

**The Gospel According to Luke — NOW MEETING IN THE CHAPEL**

**"Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis – In Winfield's**

**"Ministering Through Spiritual Gifts" by Charles Stanley – In the Gallery**

**Weekly Prayer – Conference Room in Worship Center behind Sanctuary**  
This class may be attended each week or sporadically as the Spirit leads you.

## WORSHIP SERVICE



10:30a-11:30a in the Sanctuary

## FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP

Immediately after Service on Selected Sundays as Noted Below:



**ICE CREAM SOCIALS**

In the Welcome Center after Worship on the following dates:  
June 22,  
June 29,  
July 27.

FIRST BAPTIST



**CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS**

July 13, 2025  
August 10, 2025  
September 14, 2025  
October 12, 2025  
November 9, 2025  
December 14, 2025

FIRST BAPTIST

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### MASTERPEACE PRODUCTIONS DRAMA "NEW FRONTIER"

Sunday, July 20

Noon

In the Sanctuary

Come, enjoy the fruits of our kids' labor! They will have spent the seven days prior to June 20 in camp, learning their parts, their staging, the lyrics, and in general — experiencing what it takes to present a play.

There will be a quick meal provided in Fellowship Hall after service prior to the play.

## YOUNG ADULTS GROW GROUP

**Monday Evenings**  
**Random fun events during summer**

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**WOMEN'S YOGA**  
**Wednesday Evenings**  
**5pm**  
**In the Dance Room**

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**THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!**  
**See what's happening at First Baptist in one easy place.**  
**Here's how to download the Church Center App.**

1. Go to your App Store on your device.
2. Search for and select "Church Center" (white background with aqua church icon).
3. Follow instructions to search for "First Baptist Church of Scottsdale".
4. Tap on the First Baptist Scottsdale icon.
5. Tap "Log In".
6. Sign in using phone number or email address and you have access to the app!



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**RECEIVE THE LANTERN IN YOUR INBOX!**

**Did you receive this copy of The Lantern from a friend?**  
**Did you pick it up in the lobby after the service?**  
**Would you like to receive it every Thursday in your inbox?**  
**To sign up, simply go to our Church Center app or email us**  
**at [office@fbcscottsdale.org](mailto:office@fbcscottsdale.org)**

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# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

7025 E Osborn Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
Hours: Monday through Thursday – 9a – 3p  
**480-945-6346**  
[office@fbcscottsdale.org](mailto:office@fbcscottsdale.org)

## **CHURCH WEBSITE**

<https://fbcscottsdale.church>

## **ELDER BOARD**

[elders@fbcscottsdale.org](mailto:elders@fbcscottsdale.org)

## **LEADERSHIP**

Jim Coston – Lead Pastor  
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## **NEWSLETTER SUPPORT**

Mary Lou Sarrault – Volunteer Editor  
[msarrault@fbcscottsdale.org](mailto:msarrault@fbcscottsdale.org)

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Submit prayer requests for the prayer team at:  
[prayers@fbcscottsdale.org](mailto:prayers@fbcscottsdale.org)

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