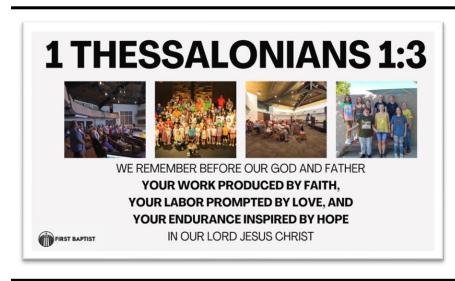


JUNE 5, 2025
Offering a seat at God's table for an adventurous life with Christ.



SERMON THEME: 1 Thessalonians

Sermon scripture for June 8: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Happy Birthday, First Baptist!

First Baptist will celebrate 113 years of ministry on June 12! We will give thanks for God's work at, through, and with First Baptist with a Birthday Party.

Sunday, June 15 Following Worship In the Welcome Center



A MONTH IN THE LIFE OF FIRST BAPTIST

From Gary Tannenbaum

The church continues to move forward with new activities, volunteering, and updates.

The Worship Leader search team is meeting weekly and continuing to search for a new Worship Leader. They would like to thank those who have filled in during this transition time and ask members to pray that the Holy Spirit will help lead the efforts to fill this position.

The church has started a MomCo group for moms and grandmas and folks who care for children. MomCo meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 9am to 11am. It's a way for them to come together, share trials and triumphs, and be honest about hard aspects of family life and motherhood. All our community ladies are welcome to come and support the project. Please share this with neighbors who have young families. This is another positive step in supporting families.

A huge thank you to the member who stepped up to pay for one year of the Children's curriculum, to those members who repaired, textured, and painted the 6'x8' section of wall across from the dance/yoga room, and to the member who fixed some outside plumbing and landscaping fixtures and filled in the needed dirt.

Office support. We are now fully staffed with volunteers in the office. The office is now open from 10am to 3pm Monday through Thursday. A big thank you to those volunteers.

Sunday Morning Greeters. Thanks to Deb Fuller for leading Greeters over the last 4 years. Nancy Westlake and Elaine Almblade have agreed to co-lead this team going forward. Thank you both. Please let them know if you would like to be part of the greeting team.

The Child Development Center continues to move forward in their plans. They had positive and encouraging results in their meeting with an outside assessment group.

The Church Member Directory will be having a much-needed update. There will be photos taken in the lobby before and after the service this coming Sunday, and on June 22nd and 29th.

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 FBCScottsdale icon.
- 5. Tap "Log In".
- 6. Sign in using phone number or email address and you have access to the app!





OUT OF THE PULPITFrom Pastor Jim Coston

Huge thanks to John and Leah Brooks who have agreed to lead our Adopt-A-Road Ministry and to Shawn Crosier and Carol Sullivan for agreeing to coordinate POWWOW!

They are shining forth!

Details to come in the Fall about how you can get involved on days for each of these ministry service projects.

WE ARE UPDATING THE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP PHOTO DIRECTORY!

As we recognize each other in this family of faith, we are better able to encourage and support one another.

We will be taking photos and gathering information for the church membership directory in the church lobby before and after the service for **three Sundays**, **starting this Sunday**. **The dates are**:

- June 8th,
- June 22nd, and
- June 29th.

If you are not able to be present on any of those dates, please email the following information to Gary Tannenbaum at: garyt148@cox.net:

- any contact information and/or a photo you would like to share with other members;
- if you would like only your information and no photo; and
- if you want a printed copy.

A copy of the directory will be emailed to you when the updates are completed.

Thank you for your participation.



MASTERPEACE PRODUCTIONS KIDS' DRAMA CAMP RETURNS TO FIRST BAPTIST

Monday, July 14 thru Sunday, July 20

Registration is available online and through the App.
Cost is \$30 per camper.

Would you like your children to learn about all aspects of putting on a musical production?

MasterPeace Kids' Drama Camp will be 7 full days of learning a script and music, adding choreography, and working toward a performance.

REGISTER NOW! Auditions will be held on the following dates:

Friday, June 13, 5p-7p Saturday, June 14, 8a-10a Sunday, June 15, 11:30a-12:30p Monday, June 16, Cast List will be released

There will be a Workshop for cast and teacher to get to know one another on Saturday, June 21, 9a-noon.

Please share about this incredible weeklong camp if you know any kids from grades 2-8. They will be taught by talented adults in all areas of the performing arts.

We're always looking for volunteers! If you would like to help with:

- sets
- props
- working with the children
- Marking
- tech board

We would love to have you volunteer.

Contact Darla Holmes at: dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org for further information.



Can you help fund the Drama Camp extras?

Contact Darla at dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org to help fund snacks, props, and two lunches for the weeklong drama camp on campus!

YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS UPDATE

We have a total of 31 youth signed up for Summer Camp this year: 15 high schoolers and 16 in junior high!

Please keep our youth in prayer as we prepare to head out in July. Be looking out in the lobby for prayer cards with the name of each youth and leader going.

And keep buying donuts!

Thank you all for your generosity, which makes this possible!



WELCOME To The Faith Family At FIRST BAPTIST

THE BAPTISM OF LESLEY JOHNSTON

Your adventurous life with Christ has begun! You have a seat at God's table, and we welcome you to the Faith family at First Baptist Church of Scottsdale.

We were blessed to hear Lesley's moving and beautiful testimony, read by Bethany Mannix, and share in the joy of her baptism.







Lesley's Testimony:

Hello, my name is Lesley and I'm blessed to be here, getting baptized today. I never thought I would be getting baptized as an adult. There are a few people I want to thank for helping me on my journey to make this decision. I want to thank my husband, Murray, for his love and his spiritual example and guidance in my life; I also want to thank First Baptist Church of Scottsdale – for this community and the leaders in the First Baptist community who have helped me get to this spiritual place. In addition, I want to sincerely thank Bethany Mannix, who I consider a sister in Christ, for reading my testimony.

This testimony was not easy for me to write, as I am someone who has always tried to hide my struggles, and I have also not always been completely honest with myself about many things in my life. I asked for the Holy Spirit's help in writing this and I do believe the Holy Spirit has helped me. Something that has also pushed me on the road to baptism has been witnessing the many young people here at First Baptist who have gotten baptized in the past few years; their leadership, boldness, strength and honesty has inspired me to become more honest in my walk with God, and for their examples I am incredibly grateful.

I grew up in a home where my family was familiar with the foundation of the Bible; we celebrated Christian holidays, understood their significance, and attended a church every week, but I never felt like I had a real relationship with God. My parents were divorced when I was 6, and from the time my parents divorced, every week my sister and I would go back and forth between my Dad and Stepmom's house and my Mom's house, where we had separate churches for each household. My parents did the best they could in both households to provide spiritual direction based on their own spiritual walks, but when I thought about God and the people who followed Jesus, I felt like I wasn't good enough to be considered someone God would want on HIS team.

As a kid, I felt like something was seriously wrong with me. I didn't understand why I was so sensitive and why I felt so alone. Connecting with people was hard for me and I felt shame about that. My family had always pushed me to be social, and I liked being social because I loved the people around me, but social interactions weren't easy for me. I had a lot of anxiety in large crowds, anxiety while in my classes at school, and anxiety at family gatherings. I didn't know how to explain my anxiety or what I was feeling. By the time I was in middle school, I chose to lose myself in substances because I really didn't like myself at all and I felt shame and anger about who I was and my limitations. I continued to use substances throughout middle school, high school, college and into my 30's to cope with being in the world (which was sometimes confusing for me) and to calm all the negativity going on in my head.

I felt like I was a huge disappointment to my family and to God. In my deepest thoughts, I didn't think anyone would love me enough to ever want to marry me due to the past choices I had made. I also never thought I would have children and chose not to because I never thought I would be a good mother. I didn't think I was good enough to be in the world. I didn't think I could be used by God, and I didn't understand what my purpose or value was; I felt lost and misunderstood and spent much of my life wondering what my purpose was here on Earth. Because of this, I spent a lot of time wandering around in my own wilderness. I wasted a lot of time and hurt many people with my words and actions. It was hard for me to truly love people when I didn't feel lovable, and I didn't feel like I could be loved by God.

The paths I took and the beliefs I held weren't just lonely but were destructive. They weren't just destructive to me, but destructive to my family relationships, romantic relationships, and friendships. Not feeling worthy of love caused me to end relationships prematurely- leaving broken hearts, it seemed, everywhere I went, and I seemed to have a never-ending supply of my own broken heartedness. In the midst of my destruction, I had deep shame, regret and anxiety about my behavior and my actions; for years I was in denial about the girl I was and the substances I used. I hid my true self and felt disappointed that I wasn't good enough to fully embrace a relationship with God. For many years, I wanted to start my life over completely. I felt I had completely trashed myself to a place where I couldn't recover.

Thankfully, God didn't allow me to completely destroy myself or trash my life. God has saved me from my own destruction over and over again. God has saved and restored many of the relationships that I thought were gone for good. God has not ever given up on me and the relationship he has called me to have with him. Thankfully, God has kept my heart open and my ears willing to listen.

This past spring season, when I fasted for the first time, I heard God tell me to let go of these negative thoughts for good, and to let go of the past and shame I have been carrying for years. God told me to forgive myself for listening to the lies that I wasn't good enough for his love; God told me to accept my mistakes and missteps and to ask for forgiveness for the times in my life when I was not walking with him.

The passage in Isaiah 43:18-19 states: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

God called me to forgive myself for acting from a place of unworthiness and to begin trusting HIM and this present moment and to trust HIM with His future plans for my life.

Philippians 4:8 states: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."

This verse is dear to me because it has helped me to stop dwelling on the past and to think about all of the new things that are to come. I can't change the past, but I can heal from it. I can't undo the mistakes I made in the past, but I can make better decisions. I now see that I am indeed human – with human flaws and faults like any other human. Most importantly, I fully believe now that I am a child of God and worthy of His love.

FBCSCOTTSDALE MEMBERSHIP PATHWAYS

FBCScottsdale loves everyone who attends and participates in the life of our congregation and ministry to our community. We encourage those who feel a connection to Jesus at FBCScottsdale to make that connection official and put down roots by joining as a member.

Joining FBCScottsdale is easy. Simply share your decision to join with a Deacon or a Staff member. This may be done by going to the stained glass in the Sanctuary at the invitation during Sunday Worship or in a separate conversation. The Deacon or Staff member will ask you by which of the following "pathways" you are joining:

- By **profession of faith** in Jesus Christ upon receiving believer's baptism by immersion;
- By statement of faith in Christ and prior believer's baptism by immersion, sprinkling or pouring;
- By **associate membership**, for persons who have made a profession of faith in Christ and who wish to participate in the life of FBCScottsdale, but also wish to retain membership in another congregation.

A staff member will invite you to talk and share about your decision. The Lead Pastor will present your name and story to the Elders at their next meeting. They will consider and make a decision regarding your membership. When approved, you will become a member and receive the Right Hand of Fellowship on a future Communion Sunday. This decision always ends in a celebration!

Consider putting down those roots as we Offer a Seat at God's Table for an Adventurous Life with Christ!

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 received in May: \$46,861

Tithes and Offerings Budgeted for May: \$45,333



I CAN FUND THAT!

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Click one of these links to see items and order from Amazon.

- 1. Youth Amazon Summer Camps Wishlist
- 2. Youth Amazon General Needs Wishlist

Contact Darla at dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org to help this camp:

3. MasterPeace Productions Kids' Drama Camp

Our Youth Ministry needs help with some things for the Youth Summer Camps as well as everyday items on campus. If you order from one of the Youth Amazon links, your items will be shipped directly to the church.

Contact Daria to help fund snacks, props, and two lunches for the weeklong MasterPeace drama camp on campus!

Thank you for all you do to support our Children's and Youth Ministries!

NEW FRONTIERS RETREAT – WESTMONT COLLEGE



Last week was the end of my year-long cohort and retreat experience with the New Frontiers Group out of Westmont College. It included three 4-night retreats, and monthly Zoom meetups where we taught our group and learned from each other. It was truly sad to say goodbye at the end of our Westmont retreat. Whatever this year might have been, it was a really wonderful time of new friendships, new learning, and new inspiration.

I thank the Gaede Institute for this project. The support, dialog, and prayer from each person in this group has been immeasurable. Our breakout sessions were so thought-provoking. Our last session this time was with eight professors from Westmont College in a vast area of disciplines. The question was: "what is community?" After each professor gave a definition with explanation from their discipline, we had discussions. It was deep and I brought back with me some new insight on what God might be doing right here at our church.

I also enjoyed a session with one of their music professors on the subject of Worship. What is worship? With all of the denominations represented, the dialog was limitless! Several of the pastors were from Worship and there was so much to take in. I bring that gleaning back to First Baptist.

It was an honor to have walked the road of ministry with these incredible people in this short year together. I am thankful for this opportunity. New Frontier was in perfect alignment and in God's timing to grow me more as a leader and deepen my relationship with Him.

NEW SUMMER GROW GROUP OFFERINGS

It's not too late to join one! 9:15a – 10:15a From Darla Holmes, Director of Grow Groups

Summer 2025 is heating up and so are the Grow Group class offerings at First Baptist Church. Starting May 18th and running through August 17th, we are offering some excellent ways to grow closer with our First Baptist family and our Lord. We know it is summer, and you may take vacation. Our teachers understand and are prepared to keep you up to date with the class if you choose.

Here are the exciting choices. We pray you will choose one to attend:

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE In E-2 (Behind Winfield's)

Brad Mannix will be traveling through Luke with the Desert Disciples class. If you want to build relationships with a spirit-led group of adults, you will want to join Brad on this adventure. If you would like to learn more about Jesus' life, birth, ministry, and His journey to Jerusalem, with detail not found in any other Gospel books, here is your class. Brad and the Desert Disciples will meet in E-2.

MERE CHRISTIANITY In Winfield's

Shawn Crosier, Angela Mansfield, and Darla Holmes will be whetting your appetite with this classic from C.S. Lewis. Dive deep into the core of Christianity to those who want to hear the truth and build their understanding of living in faith, regardless of denominational differences. It is very much the fundamental aspect of the Christian faith. Share great conversation and dialog in this roundtable discussion or sit back and take it all in as you learn and grow in Christ. The class will meet in Winfield's.

MINISTERING THROUGH SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Recognize Your Personal Gifts and Use Them to Further the Kingdom In the Gallery

Linda and Kevin Olsen are taking a deep dive into this study by Charles Stanley. The class will include other authors, as you are encouraged to pinpoint your God-given strengths by exploring the gifts in Romans 12. God asks us to bring Him glory, and this thought-provoking study will bless our community as we grow and serve together at First Baptist Church. Linda and Kevin will be teaching in the Gallery.

WEEKLY PRAYER In Fellowship Hall

We know how the Holy Spirit leads at First Baptist, and the importance of continued Prayer is at the heart of our church. *Weekly Prayer* will be led by **Lesley Johnston and Yolanda Evans** each week in Fellowship Hall. The class is designed to support and promote community prayer as we walk by faith. Come every week or stop by and enjoy the time with God.

Matthew 18:20 says: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

As FBCScottsdale continues to grow and strengthen in Christ, we pray you will find a class and a community to build relationships with, as you develop a stronger bond in your personal journey. Enjoy your summer cooling off in the comfort of knowledge with Christ.

If you have any questions, please contact Darla Holmes, Director of Grow Groups, at: dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org.



CHANENI HOUSE HELPED 433 CLIENTS IN MAY!

The work that we do is made possible by the service of 16 volunteers. Chaneni is staffed 100% by faithful women who work hard every shift. This is a fellowship of people who love the Lord and therefore find joy in helping "these brothers and sisters" of His as we are charged in Matthew 25.

A second group of people who make this ministry possible are those who support us with your donations. Thank you for your faithfulness. We were able to help those who came because of you. Every donation is welcome.

We continue to be very low on men's shorts, socks, and underwear and on toys.

Matthew 25: 35-40 says:

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷ "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰ "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'















"Steeped In Faith" Event Recap

Many of the women of First Baptist came together on Saturday, May 31, to hear a thoughtful and inspiring talk by Angela Mansfield. Angela spoke about the gospel of John, its focus on our relationship with God, and what we what we are steeping ourselves in as we try to live a faith filled life. Of course, we are Baptists, so we also enjoyed a delicious brunch that featured various teas and tasty side dishes.









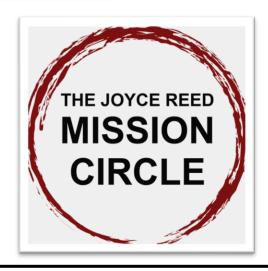


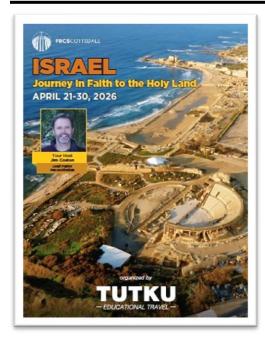


UPCOMING EVENTS

JOYCE REED MISSION CIRCLE IS ON SUMMER HIATUS UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 9:30a

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Dianne Brouwer at: 602-614-5703.





2026 JOURNEY IN FAITH TO THE HOLY LAND! INTEREST MEETING

Sunday, June 8 11:45a In the Gallery

Pastor Jim will hold an interest meeting on Sunday, June 8, at 11:45a in the Gallery, regarding the 2026 Holy Land trip, scheduled for **April 21 through April 30, 2026**.

Spots are limited as we have two other churches interested in sending people. Come to hear about the trip, its itinerary, cost, and see some of the sites we will visit.

If you cannot attend but have an interest, please see Jim. If you just want a copy of the tour brochure, email Jim at: jcoston@fbcscottsdale.org.

MASTERPEACE PRODUCTIONS KIDS' DRAMA CAMP

Register now for auditions, which will be held on the following dates: Friday, June 13, 5p-7p Saturday, June 14, 8a-10a Sunday, June 15, 11:30a-12:30p Monday, June 16 – Cast List Released



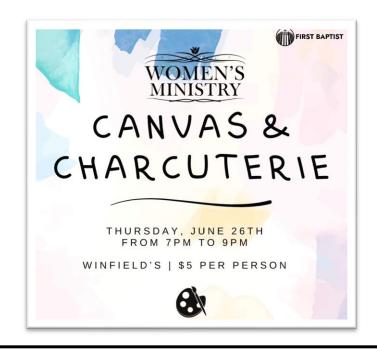
JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED EVENING OF PAINTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY.

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED,
COME SHOW OFF YOUR TALENT!

THE CLASS WILL BE TAUGHT BY SAL COSENZA, JR., LOCAL ARTIST, AUTHOR, AND PROFESSOR AT ASU'S DESIGN SCHOOL.

ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED!

For more information, contact Darla at: dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org





MEN'S MINISTRY POKER NIGHT!

Friday, June 27 7p In Winfield's

All men are welcome to join us!
The buy-in is \$10

We're building friendships and nurturing faith as we play cards.

Regardless of whether you are an avid poker player or someone who just enjoys casually playing cards, this is a night of fellowship and fun.

SUNDAYS AT FIRST BAPTIST

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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

This week, preschoolers will hear the story of Jesus welcoming the little children. They'll learn that Jesus loves me so, so much. The elementary age kiddos are studying the Book of Proverbs through the month of June.

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 GLASSES

9:15a-10:15a

The Gospel According to Luke – Led by Brad Mannix – In E-2

"Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis – Led by Shawn Crosier, Angela Mansfield, & Darla Holmes
In Winfield's

"Ministering Through Spiritual Gifts" by Charles Stanley – Led by Linda and Kevin Olson In the Gallery

Weekly Prayer – Led by Lesley Johnston and Yolanda Evans In Fellowship Hall This class may be attended each week or sporadically as the Spirit leads you.

WORSHIP SERVICE

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

MIDWEEK AT FIRST BAPTIST

MIDWEEK CLASSES ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY ARE ON HIATUS UNTIL SEPTEMBER WITH THESE EXCEPTIONS:

YOUNG ADULTS GROW GROUP

Random fun events during summer

WOMEN'S YOGA

Wednesday Evenings 5pm

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 email us at office@fbcscottsdale.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CHURCH OFFICE

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

CHURCH WEBSITE

https://fbcscottsdale.church

ELDER BOARD

elders@fbcscottsdale.org

LEADERSHIP

Jim Coston – Lead Pastor jcoston@fbcscottsdale.org

Monica Lievsay – Youth and Outreach Pastor <u>mlievsay@fbcscottsdale.org</u> or <u>youth@fbcscottsdale.org</u>

Darla Holmes – Director of Children's Ministries & Grow Groups dholmes@fbcscottsdale.org

John Stewart – Facilities Director istewart@fbcscottsdale.org

Dan Irawan - Facilities Assistant

Andrew – Social Media Intern aandrew@fbcscottsdale.org

NEWSLETTER SUPPORT

Mary Lou Sarrault – Volunteer Editor msarrault@fbcscottsdale.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Submit prayer requests for the prayer team at: prayers@fbcscottsdale.org