

# "THE VISION"



September 2024 www.firstbaptistwest.com admin@firstbaptistwest.com 536-4227

## FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings, Everyone,

I think we are about to be able to say that we survived another summer in Southwest Oklahoma. It's not just the heat that I am talking about but the many church activities that have gone on at FBW. God has shown His favor on us throughout our summer events and we can give Him praise for that.

It is time to get back into our regular schedules in life and in church. We have some great things in store for us during the Fall/Winter semester. There are going to be some great Bible Studies to get involved in on Wednesday and Sunday evenings and I pray that you will take the time to be a part of our discipleship studies. We have some of the best teachers at FBW and each of their studies will bless you.

We also have some great Sunday Morning Small groups that I would like to encourage you to be a part of, if you aren't already. Sunday School is one of those precious gems of the church and so many lives have been changed through it. We are always looking for people to lead out in Sunday morning studies as well as the Sunday and Wednesday evening studies. If God is leading you to help out in any of our groups, whether it is preschool, Children, Youth or Adult groups, please step up and help out.

We have so much to be thankful for at FBW and I believe God has so much more in store for us during the rest of 2024. Don't miss out. God bless you, have a great day and I'll see you in church.

Bro. Harold

**WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS**  
By Baptism: Leah Slater

**Senior Adult  
LUNCH  
with the  
PASTOR**

**Thursday, Sept 19, at 11:30 am.** Sign up in the foyer, in your Sunday School class, or call the church office!



### Sunday

ESL Class	4:30 pm
Preschool Grow in Missions!	5:00 pm
Kids Choir	5:00 pm
Youth Bible Study	5:00 pm
Adult Bible Study	5:00 pm

### Tuesday

Women's Bible Study	10:00 am
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### Wednesday

Family Meal	5:00 pm
Youth Meal & Recharge	5:30 pm
Preschool Music Makers	6:00 pm
Kids: GO! Missions	6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting	6:00 pm
Adult Bible Study	6:00 pm
Women's Bible Study	6:00 pm
Choir Practice	7:00 pm



**Women's Bible Study  
Tuesday Mornings at  
10am**

This study leads you the book of James with advice on how to overcome temptation, controlling the tongue, effective prayer, and how to practice what the Bible teaches. If you're going to make progress in these areas, you will need a growing faith and dependence on Christ because as James claims, "Every good and perfect gift is from above."

**Women's Bible Study  
Wednesday Nights at 6pm**

This search for truth unfolds the story of our matchless Savior—His mission, miracles, and message. We will unpack Scripture in a way that's easy to understand, regardless of how long you've been studying the Bible.



**Sunday  
Nights at  
4:30pm**  
Starting Sept 8

## FROM THE ASSOC. PASTOR

As we head into Fall, I just want to thank everyone for all of your support during our summer months. You have stepped up to the plate and helped with many ministries and I am grateful to see you do that. When the body of Christ operates like it should nobody is overloaded or burned out but everybody has an opportunity to use their gifts, talents, and abilities to further the Kingdom.

This fall and winter will also be a busy time as we seek to reach out to our community. I trust that you as the church will step up and help us staff all our ministry needs during this time as well. I want to encourage you to look for these opportunities in the bulletin each week or on Facebook at your leisure. We will try to keep you updated on all the activities that are happening. Please call the church if you desire to help in these areas.

We are still in need of greeters and ushers on Sundays. This is a great way to meet people and use your gifts at the same time. Greeters mainly meet people at the door and welcome them to our church for the day. Ushers help with handing out the bulletins and other information on Sunday mornings. They also assist with helping people find seats when it is needed. Please call me at the office if you feel like you can plug in in this area of service.

If you would like to help in the food ministry, please give me a call. We can still use a few people to help on Wednesday nights, either with preparation or clean up. Our motto in the kitchen is "we love it when a plan comes together". That usually only happens when we have sufficient help prepping, cooking, and cleaning up after each meal.

I look forward to working with you during the upcoming months and just want to encourage you to do what you can to help First Baptist West accomplish what we feel like God wants us to do.

Serving together,  
Bro. Barry

**BLOOD  
drive** **Sunday,  
September  
22**

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## FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF WORSHIP & MISSIONS

Church Family,

Fall is right around the corner! Or at least that's what I keep telling myself! I'm sure the fall weather will get here eventually, but in the meantime FBW's fall schedule is in full swing! All our Wednesday night activities have resumed including Worship Choir rehearsals from 7-8:30 PM. FBW's choir is open to youth age up through adult.

One of the things that I love about FBW is the fact that we are a multigenerational church! That is clearly seen in our Sunday services and our many different ministries. It is my desire that our Worship Choir represent that as best we can as we lead weekly. So I am putting out the invitation for anyone, regardless of musical knowledge or perceived abilities, who has a love for praising the Lord to come and join our choir! In September we will begin looking at music for this year's "Christmas at West." Please pray for this event and how God may use you!

Thank you to everyone that participated in the FBW 2024 Missions Festival! It was a great time for our church to see and learn more about the different missions that First West is actively involved in or partnered with. Please pray for, give to, and serve in these missions as we take the gospel across the street and to the nations!

*"Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!"*  
- 1 Chron. 16:24

Bro. Brent

**Saturday,  
September 28,  
9:00 a.m.**



**Volunteers are needed at 9:00 a.m. to set up & to serve at 10:45 a.m. Contact Susan Thompson at (580)678-9195 for any questions or more info.**



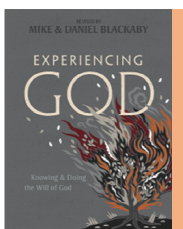
The "Grief Share" ministry starts again on **September 8** for those who have experienced loss. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. This ministry provides care, encouragement, and support as you cope with one of life's most difficult experiences. This special ministry is led by Craig & Lorrie Shelton.



**Men's Breakfast  
Sat., Sept. 14 | 9 am**  
Men will meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast. Sign up in foyer or scan the QR code.



**Sunday, September 29, at 5:00 pm**  
**No other evening activities.**



**Youth Bible Study**  
Sunday Nights at 5pm  
Students will meet in the youth room. Snacks provided.



W.I.T. Fellowship is 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 26, in the FBW Fellowship Hall.



**Adult Bible Study**  
**Wednesday Nights at 6:00 PM**  
**Led by Bro. Harold Gaches**

## FROM THE ASSOC. PASTOR OF STUDENT & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Hello church family!

It's hard to believe summer is already over, but Fall is here! I am excited to be back to Wednesday Night Recharge and Sunday Night Bible Study!

This semester, our Sunday Night Bible study is "Experiencing God" by Mike & Daniel Blackaby. When students open this book, they will find they aren't just reading; they are being remade, reoriented, and restored. Experiencing God will help students in knowing and doing the will of God. Students will learn to carefully listen to God's voice and anchor themselves in His plan for their lives.

We would also like to encourage our parents and students to mark their calendars for See You at the Pole on September 25. See You at the Pole is simply a prayer rally where students meet at the school flagpole before school to lift up their friends, families, teachers, school, and nation to God. There is an association wide rally that evening that we will take our students to. We will post that information on our Facebook page and in Church Center as soon as possible.

We will have two Monday Night Fellowships this month on September 9th and September 23rd starting at 6:00 PM. My wife, Kaylee, and I host fellowships at our home, 403 SW 80th Street. This is a great time for students to bond, play games, play with dogs, or just need time to fellowship. Dinner is provided!

Dates to remember:

**September 8 - Parent Meeting during Sunday School**

**September 8 - Sunday Night Study Begins**

**September 25 - See You at the Pole**

Sincerely,

Bro. Keith Sahr



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## FROM THE PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN’S DIRECTOR

Greetings from FBW Children:

This year in children’s missions discipleship we will focus not only on God’s love for us, but on our responsibility as Christians to respond to the love God gives us by sharing it with others. Children will learn Christ’s great love compels us to happily share with others God’s good news and our lives. Compel is a forceful word. It expresses a powerful and irresistible urge. An undeniable force. If we truly understand God loves us so much, we are compelled to share His love with others! Parents sign your kids up for our mission classes and come be involved yourselves.

### Preschool Fall 2024

**Preschool Music Makers:** Preschoolers (ages 3-5) “All Creation Sings” finds its Inspiration in Psalm 150:6 guiding children to recognize God as the Maker of all things. Preschoolers will learn about the world around them as God’s creation and express their praise and thanksgiving to the Lord of earth, sky, and sea. Preschoolers will learn songs and hymns through hands-on learning and playing rhythm instruments. Wednesday Night 6-7 PM (August 21st – November 20th)

**Preschool: Grow in Missions!:** (ages 3-5) Preschoolers come to understand that God loves me, God loves all people, and some people do not know about God’s love. Preschoolers learn about missions by helping them learn about missions work in North America and around the world, pray for missionaries and people who need to hear of God’s love, give to missions through cooperative giving and special missions offerings, and do missions by helping others in your church, your community, and around the world. Sundays 5-6 PM (September 8th – November 10th)

### Kids Fall 2024

**Kids: Go Missions!:** (K-6th) is designed for boys and girls to come to faith in Christ while making missions an important part of their daily lives. They learn what it means to live a missional lifestyle while they participate in Bible studies, mission projects and engaging activities. They also have a lot of fun as they “travel” to various places around the world when they learn about and pray for

the work of missionaries. Wednesday Nights 6-7 PM (August 21st – November 20th)

**FBW Kids Choir:** (K-6th) “All Creation Sings” finds its inspiration in Psalm 150:6, guiding children to recognize God as the Maker of all things. Children learn to honor the world around them as God’s creation and express their praise and thanksgiving to the Lord. The kids will learn songs, hymns, and have devotions that relate to the scripture emphasized that day. The kids will learn to read music, sing, and play instruments.

Sunday Nights 5-6 PM (September 8th – December 8th)

**Preschool Needs: Toddler Sunday School Teacher, Preschool Sunday School Teachers, Substitute Teachers, 1st Worship Teacher, 2nd Worship Teachers, Preschool Music Teacher**

**Kids Needs: Substitute Sunday School Teachers, 1st Service Teachers, 2nd Service Teachers, Kids Choir Teachers, Wednesday Night Discipleship Teachers.**

Please help teach the next generation about the Lord, God calls us all to serve. Call, text, email, or speak in person to Keith Sahr or Melissa Burke.

- 1 Thessalonians 2:8

God Bless!  
Melissa Burke



## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

August		Sunday School	
Average		Attendance	
Preschool	16	Aug 4	198
Children	23	Aug 11	222
Youth	32	Aug 18	208
Adults	141	Aug 25	213
Total	210		

### Deacons/Yokefellows on Call

#### September 1 – September 7

Primary: Glenn Hinton 704-6494  
Alternate: Quinton Murr 305-0784

#### September 8 – September 14

Primary: Ed Petersen 536-3510  
Alternate: Craig Shelton 583-6693

#### September 15 – September 21

Primary: Larry Thompson 595-1799  
Alternate: Trevor Whitworth 536-5001

#### September 22 – September 28

Primary: Jerry Wood 284-5003  
Alternate: Dwain Baxter 591-6071

#### September 29 – October 5

Primary: Ron Callen 704-8014  
Alternate: Jim Green 483-9751



## Senior Adult Lunch with the Pastors



**FIRST BAPTIST WEST**  
7302 NW Cache Road  
Lawton, OK 73505

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Permit No. 87



**Love God, Love People, See Lives Change.**

## **FIRST BAPTIST WEST WEEKLY SERVICES**

### **SUNDAY**

**8:30 A.M.** EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
**9:45 A.M.** SUNDAY SCHOOL  
**11:00 A.M.** WORSHIP SERVICE (Livestreamed)  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Go to [firstbaptistwest.com](http://firstbaptistwest.com) AND click on "WATCH ONLINE" or First Baptist West on Facebook. Archived services are available by clicking on "Videos" on the "WATCH ONLINE" page.



### **Spanish Services**

**Sundays, 11:00 a.m., Spanish Church Room**  
**Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., Spanish Home Bible Study**  
(twice a month)

### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**WEDNESDAY 5:45 P.M.** PRESCHOOL  
**6:00-7:00 P.M.** CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES  
YOUTH ACTIVITIES  
PRAYER MEETING  
ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

### **CHURCH STAFF**

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Harold Gaches</b>
<b>Facilities Administrator</b>	<b>Barry Cornish</b>
<b>Executive Administrator</b>	<b>Randy Murphy</b>
<b>Worship Pastor</b>	<b>Brent Bennight</b>
<b>Spanish Pastor</b>	<b>Bruno Rojas</b>
<b>Student Pastor</b>	<b>Keith Sahr</b>
<b>Preschool/Children's Director</b>	<b>Melissa Burke</b>
<b>Financial Administrator</b>	<b>Linda Whitworth</b>
	<b>Rexane Geis</b>
<b>Admin. Asst./Receptionist</b>	<b>Kaylee Sahr</b>
<b>Custodian</b>	<b>Kevin Hill</b>
<b>Custodian</b>	<b>Jim Green</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Sandy Sharkey</b>
<b>Pianist</b>	<b>Diana Webb</b>