

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings, everyone.

Happy New Year! 2025 is now here and it come upon us rather quickly. Someone once said that "Time flies when you're having fun." Well, I must have been having all sorts of fun in 2024 because it seriously flew by. God was so good to us last year and I am so looking forward to what He is going to do for us this year.

I will be sharing my "Pastor's Vision for 2025" in the upcoming weeks and I am looking forward to sharing what I believe God is wanting FBW to focus on this upcoming year. The main point is for us to know that God is able to do all and exceedingly more than we can think or imagine. The theme verse will be Ephesians 3:20 and it is the closing part of Paul's prayer for the church to know the height, depth, and width of God's love. There is so much that we, as God's people miss out on in our fellowship with Him and my heart is to guide the church in expecting God to do more for us, in us and through us with no limitations. I feel this is going to be a year of growth and outreach for FBW.

I would like to thank Pastor Brent, the adult and children's choirs, the praise team and band as well as everyone who worked on the technical side of our Christmas At West program to make it as wonderful as it was. Also, to everyone who had a part in the play and those who volunteered as Ushers and Greeters, Host and Hostesses for the fellowship that followed. Our Christmas At West is a great testimony of God's love and grace to the world. I am proud of everyone who made it all possible.

I would like to welcome Gloria Edwards to our church family and I am looking forward to serving as her pastor and getting to know her better. God bless you, have a great month and I'll see you in church.

Bro. Harold



By Statement: Gloria Edwards



Men will meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast. Sign up in foyer or in the Church Center App.



To Elizabeth & Don Howard on the passing of Elizabeth's brother, Steve, on December 26.



Jack Dodd passed away December 27. He was a member of FBW for over 11 years. Our condolences go to Janice Dodd and family.

Jan. 16 | 11:30am Sign up in the foyer, in your Sunday School class, or call the church office!



Come help us take down the Christmas decorations Sunday, January 5 at 5pm. A meal will be provided.



Saturday, January 25

Volunteers are needed at 9:00 a.m. to set up and to serve at 11:45 a.m. Contact Susan Thompson at (580) 678-9195.

FROM THE ASSOC. PASTOR

The song says that it is the "most wonderful time of the year" but for some it may not be. Maybe you are missing someone around your table this Christmas, or maybe you are just having a hard time with all of the celebration. I want you to know that God dearly loves you, no matter where you find yourself at this time of the year. This is the time when we celebrate his great love for us and sending his son to die for us and give us eternal life. I hope that you will find some joy in this time of the year, but don't be ashamed if you need someone to talk to. We are here to help you through all times, not just the good times.

We had a great time at our Christmas Generations. It was fun seeing everyone enjoy the fellowship and the food. What a great job everyone did with the games.

What a great night we had at Christmas at West. Thank you for all the volunteers that made it happen.

I want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It's always hard to get used to using the new year when you have to date something. It's hard to believe we are starting 2025. I want to encourage you in the year to come to serve the Lord with more intensity than you have in the past. Time is running out. And we never know when Jesus will come again.

Serving together,
Bro. Barry



Wednesday Night

Meals start back

Family Meal (5:00-5:45 pm)

Adults/Youth: \$5.00, Children: \$3.00.

Maximum cost per family: \$20.00.

All RESERVATIONS need to be made BY 5 PM ON MONDAY. Reservations can be made by calling the church office, filling out a meal envelope located in the foyer, or commenting on church Facebook Page.



The church office will reopen January 2, 2025.

FROM THE ASSOC. PASTOR OF WORSHIP & MISSIONS

Church Family,

I pray that you and your family had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Another year has come and gone and each one seems to go faster than the last. 2024 was a great year for us and God blessed FBW in many ways!

I want to say a huge "Thank you!" again to everyone that had a part in Christmas at West! It is a massive undertaking that I certainly could not do on my own. We shared an amazing night of worship together and God, I believe, was certainly honored by it! To our adult and children choirs, the drama cast members, sound, video and lighting tech, the ERT team, ushers and greeters, host and hostesses and childcare workers; everyone had a vital role in making the night a success. Continue to pray for those that were in attendance that night that the message they heard either spoken or through music would be used by God to minister to them.

Choir rehearsal will kick off again on January 8th at 7:00 pm in the choir loft. It is open to adults and youth-age students. I believe that God has individuals in our church that He wants to be a part of the music ministry that may have not participated in a while or maybe even never before. Prayerfully consider joining our choir.

In this new year I pray that we at FBW will continue to reach outside the walls of our church to take the gospel message to people that may never set foot in our building through local, state, national and even international missions. There are many ways to serve through missions at FBW and I pray that we each would ask God what opportunities He wants us to be involved in during 2025.

It is with great expectancy that we look forward to what God has in store for us individually and as a church because of God's faithfulness in the past! While we have no idea what 2025 will hold, we do know the One who does know such things and is in complete control! Let's rely upon Him and seek after His will in an even deeper way this year than we ever have before.

Bro. Brent



Join us for a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages kids to know Jesus Christ and to grow in a relationship with Him through games, scripture memory, missions activities, and more!



February 7-9

United Weekend is D-NOW weekend for all churches in the Comanche-Cotton Baptist Assoc. We will attend Worship Rallies, breakouts, and small group discussion at First Baptist East. Students will need to be dropped off at the host homes on Friday, February 7, between 5:30-5:45 PM. The girls will be at the Sahr family's house, 403 SW 80th Street, and the boys will be staying at the Welborn house, 12 Deer Run Trail.



Students will stay in host homes for the weekend, sit together in the 11:00am service on Sunday, and be released from FBW following the service.



Fine Art Fundays

Starting January 12 from 5pm-6pm

Kids (1-6) will get the opportunity to work with a mentor who will encourage them to develop their skills in the visual and performing arts as they grow in Christ! Use the QR code to sign your child up for classes.



Sunday Night Adult Bible Study

Starting Jan 12 at 5pm

The world calls us into things not pleasing to God and out of relationship with Him and His people. Let's look at biblical calls from God. So many times, we are quick to answer the calls of this world, but reluctant to answer Gods call.

FROM THE ASSOC. PASTOR OF STUDENT & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Happy New Year Church family!

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year! Our student ministry had a month filled with Christmas fun and activities and we are excited to see how God is going to move in this New Year!

Wednesday Night Recharge will start on January 8 with a youth meal every week starting at 5:30pm with worship and devotion from 6pm-7pm. We will do thing a little differently each week, so don't miss out on some of the fun things we will do this semester!

Sunday Night Bible study will start on January 12 at 6pm. We will be working through a student-led Discipleship program called "Jesus People" by Phil Wiseman and Megan Koch. Over the course of 12 weeks, students will be encouraged to build relationships and habits into their life that keep them walking and talking with Jesus together.

My wife and I will host the first Monday Night Fellowship of 2025 on January 13th starting at 6:00 PM. Our address is 403 SW 80th Street. There will be two Monday Night Fellowships this month, January 13th and January 27th! This is a great time for students to bond over food and fun! Dinner is provided!

The Youth Ministry will be having a Valentine's Bake Sale in the welcome center on February 2nd! All proceeds will go towards lowering the cost of summer activities including Super Summer, Falls Creek, and our Tulsa Mission Trip. We greatly appreciate the support from our FBW family! Looking forward to what God has planned this year!

Mark your calendars for the upcoming dates (Including Summer Camps):

- February 2 - Valentine's Bake Sale
- February 7-9 - United Weekend
- March 15 - WinterJam25
- June 1-5 - Tulsa Mission Trip
- June 16-20 - Super Summer
- July 14-19 - Falls Creek

Sincerely,
Bro. Keith Sahr

It's a girl!

Baby Shower for
Emily & Micah Coleman
February, 8 at 10:30am
Registered on Amazon



- ✓ Register for Events
- ✓ Pre-check Your kids
- ✓ Join a Group
- ✓ Update Contact Info

FROM THE PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Greetings from FBW Preschool:

Happy New Year!

What brings you joy? Paul says that Christian joy is a good emotion in the soul produced by the fruit of the Holy Spirit causing us to see the beauty and the glory of Jesus Christ in His Word and in His Work. Every gift of Christ to us is a communication of something of Himself. Choose "JOY" and write what brings you joy on our bulletin board.

Preschool: Grow In Missions!

During the month of January, we will be learning how the Gaskin Family in Utah tells people that Jesus loves them at Mosaic Church.

Ages: Birth-2 yrs. & 3 yrs.-Kindergarten

Start Date: January 12th

Location: Preschool Hall

Time: Sundays 5-6 pm

Music Makers

During the month of January, we will be singing songs about praising God and what he has created. Our focus verse is Psalm 150:6.

Ages: Birth-2 yrs. & 3 yrs.-Kindergarten

Start Date: January 8th

Location: Preschool Hall

Time: Wednesdays 6-7 pm

-Philippians 4:4

God Bless!

Melissa Burke

FBW Preschool Ministry Director



Adult Wed. Night Bible Study

Starting Jan 8 at 6pm

The relationship between God and His people is dependent upon the faithfulness of God. This is a theme that dominates the book of Joshua. All throughout, we watch as God stays true to His character and faithful in all His promises toward His people to give them a land, an inheritance, and a future. Ultimately, the faithfulness of God through Joshua points to the faithfulness of God through Jesus Christ, our Savior.



SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

December		Sunday School	
Average		Attendance	
Preschool	11	Dec 1	191
Children	17	Dec 8	198
Youth	23	Dec 15	197
Adults	134	Dec 22	176
Total	186	Dec 29	173

Deacons/Yokefellows on Call

December 29 – January 4

Primary: Ed Petersen 536-3510

Alternate: Craig Shelton 583-6693

January 5 – January 11

Primary: Larry Thompson 595-1799

Alternate: Trevor Whitworth 536-5001

January 12 – January 18

Primary: Martin Williams 405-829-0168

Alternate: Jerry Wood 284-5003

January 19 – January 25

Primary: Dwain Baxter 591-6071

Alternate: Ron Callen 704-8014

January 26 – February 1

Primary: Jim Green 483-9751

Alternate: David King 595-1026

2024 Contribution Statements will be available in the foyer by the end of the month. Please make sure to pick yours up as soon as possible. **Using envelopes & filling them out with name & amount** helps our money counters & with accuracy on year-end statements.

INCLEMENT Weather Info

In case of inclement weather on a church day, please check KSWO, FBW Facebook, or your text messages for information on closings or changes in schedule. We will try to have information posted by 3pm on Wednesdays and 7am on Sundays.

FBW Schedule Change Text Alert!



Use the QR code or text **FBWTEXT** to (580)634-8234 to sign up!

Text messages will exclusively be sent in the event of schedule changes (i.e. inclement weather or any other changes.) This is one way texting system.



Kids Happy Birthday Jesus Party!!



FIRST BAPTIST WEST
7302 NW Cache Road
Lawton, OK 73505

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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 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 & KIDS
ACTIVITIES
- 6:00-7:00 P.M.** KID'S ACTIVITIES
STUDENT ACTIVITIES
PRAYER MEETING
ADULT BIBLE STUDIES
- 7:00-8:30 P.M.** CHOIR REHEARSAL

CHURCH STAFF

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor | Harold Gaches |
| Facilities Administrator | Barry Cornish |
| Executive Administrator | Randy Murphy |
| Worship Pastor | Brent Bennight |
| Spanish Pastor | Bruno Rojas |
| Student Pastor | Keith Sahr |
| Preschool Director | Melissa Burke |
| Financial Administrator | Rexane Geis |
| Admin. Asst./Receptionist | Kaylee Sahr |
| Custodian | Kevin Hill |
| Custodian | Jim Green |
| Organist | Sandy Sharkey |
| Pianist | |