

From the Interim Pastor

Dear First West Family,

Thank you so much for the privilege and honor of being your interim pastor. Serving Christ alongside you these past few months has been such as joy. I look forward to whatever remaining season God gives us together.

The loss of Pastor Harold has been difficult, to say the least. Yet, I am encouraged that, even during this time of grief, you have not shrunk back in your commitment to Jesus. Instead, you have continued to trust Him and walk into the future by faith. Among other things, that walk of faith will lead you to a new pastor. At this moment we don't know who he is, but I know you have already joined me in praying for him, as well as his family.

You have selected the following people from the congregation to serve on the Pastor Search Committee: Craig Shelton, Jerry Wood, Quinton Murr, James Shea, Margaret Perry, Gina Hinton, and Katie Langston. Chris Sharkey and Susan Thompson are the alternates, should the need arise. Please pray for these men and women daily. Ask the Lord to give them wisdom and leadership as they go through the daunting process of discerning His will regarding your next pastor.

As we step into 2026, let's do so with a heart of courageous faith. Opportunities abound for us to make Jesus known. By His grace and mercy, this is going to be an incredible year! "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, (let us) press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).

Gratefully yours,
Pastor Bill

**MAY YOU SHINE
THE LIGHT OF
CHRIST IN THE
NEW YEAR!**



Saturday,
January 24

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.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Jan 4 Holiday Worship Schedule
(There will be no 8:30 am service.)
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service



**Wednesday Night Meals
start back January 7!**

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.

Office Closed Happy New Year!

The church office will be closed January 1 in observance of New Years Day. The church office will reopen Friday, January 2, from 9am-12pm.

**UNDECK
THE HALLS**

**Join us January 4 at 5pm to
take the Christmas decorations
down. A meal will be provided.**



Jan. 15 | 11:30am
**Sign up in the
foyer, in your
Sunday School
class, or call
the church
office!**

Men's Breakfast
Sat., Jan. 15 at 9 am
Men will meet in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast.



From the Student & Family Ministry Pastor

Happy New Year Church family!

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year! While the year 2025 had many challenges and hardships, remember that our God is good in every season and will carry us forward into the new year. God carried us through it together. We can cling to the hope we have in Jesus. I'm excited to see what God will do in 2026!

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

Sunday Night Discipleship will start again on January 11 at 5pm. We are continuing the discipleship program from the fall, "Sumphero." Sumphero is a Greek word that translates as "to carry with others." This program will not only teach students about spiritual disciplines but help them put them to practice with engaging activities. This is more than just another bible study, it's discipleship!

United Weekend is January 16-18 and costs \$40. This event is a discipleship weekend where all Baptist churches in the Comanche Cotton Baptist Association are invited to attend. Worship services, breakouts, and small group sessions will be here, at FBW. Students will need to be dropped off at the church for dinner at 5:45 PM on Friday, January 16th. All the boys will be staying at Jeremy Welborn's house, 12 Deer Run Trail, the high school girls will be staying at the Sahr's house, 403 SW 80th Street, and the middle school girls will be staying at the Ghayyeb's house, 7614 NW Willow Creek Drive.

Monday Night Fellowship this month is on January 26th starting at 6:00 PM. This month's fellowship will be at the Hill's house, 7103 NW Ash Ave. This is a great time for students to bond, play games, play with dogs, or just need time to fellowship. Dinner is provided!

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

- January 16-18 - United Weekend
- February 22 - Valentine's Bake Sale
- March 14 - Winter Jam 26'
- June 15-19 - Super Summer
- July 13-18 - Falls Creek
- July 25-30 - Tulsa Mission Trip

Sincerely,
Bro. Keith Sahr

From the Assoc. Pastor

Dear First Baptist West,

After prayerful consideration, I am writing to formally announce my retirement from my position at First Baptist West, effective January 30th, 2026. Serving this church for the past 25 years has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. These years combined with my previous years of service total over 40 years in the ministry.

These years have been filled with God's faithfulness, meaningful relationships, and countless moments that I will treasure forever. It has truly been an honor to walk alongside this congregation, to serve this community, and to witness firsthand what God has done through First Baptist West.

I am deeply grateful for the love, support, and encouragement shown to me by the staff, leadership, and church family. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve and to grow with you. I have been continually inspired by your dedication to ministry and your heart for others.

As I enter this new season of retirement, I will pray for First Baptist West and trust God will lead you into an even stronger and more fruitful future.

Although I am stepping away from my formal role, part of my heart will always be with First Baptist West, and I look forward to seeing how God continues to work in and through you.

With deep gratitude and God's grace,
Barry Cornish



United Weekend is coming up soon, January 16-18th!! The cost is \$40! This is essentially a Disciple Now (D-Now) weekend for students to spend time together growing in their faith. Worship rallies, breakouts, and small group discussion will be hosted here at FBW! 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.

From the Spanish Church Pastor

The Bible tells us that the mercies of God are new every morning. That truth encourages us, because it reminds us that each day we can begin again before the Lord. Every morning is an opportunity to come before Him and seek in Him not only the strength we need, but also His direction for our lives.

Scripture calls us to seek the Lord while He may be found, to call upon Him while He is near. And this call is not only for those who are far from God. Seeking the Lord is a daily need for the Christian. The good news is that we can do this every morning. We can draw near to Him in the name of Jesus, trusting in His love, and with the assurance that anyone who comes to Him with a humble and contrite heart will not be rejected.

Each day God gives us a new opportunity to seek Him and to do things better. That means there is hope for us every day. And how much more when the Lord allows us to begin a new year. We all desire that this year will be better, that things will improve, that we will see the hand of God at work in our lives.

The good news is that our God does not change with circumstances. Nothing can move Him. Nothing surprises Him. And He is always near to us. Christ made this possible. Through Him, we now have access to God.

For this reason, this year can be better as we seek His face each day. Let us remember the words of Jesus: "Apart from Me you can do nothing." He is our source of life. He is the One who gives meaning, purpose, and direction to all that we are and all that we do.

So I want to encourage you to make the Lord your priority this year. And along with the Lord, make His church a priority as well. As we seek Him and remain faithful in gathering together, God will bring grace upon grace into our lives. And believe me, living this way, this year can be better.

Scripture says it this way: "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers" (1

Peter 3:10-12).

Seek the Lord, and be confident that you will lack nothing.

God bless you,
Bro. Bruno

From the Kid's Director

Hello 2026! Happy New Year's!

Growing up my Dad would always ask my brother and I what our New Year's resolutions would be. At times I would just say "Well Dad, statistically speaking many people quit their new years goal by the end of January. What's the point?" He would remind me that a new year can bring fresh hope, exciting possibilities, and it's a reminder that God is always doing new things. We may not know what the months ahead will hold, but we do know that God is already there, working in ways we can't yet see.

Looking forward, there are so many goals I want to see happen within the Children's department. The most important one would be to see our kids grow in their faith with a steady foundation in Christ. I can't wait to see what 2026 holds for First Baptist West!

While we're looking forward, go ahead and mark your summer calendar for CrossTimbers, June 29-July 2! You won't want to miss it!



Sundays- starting January 11

3:00 pm	Grief Share
5:00 pm	Preschool Grow in Missions
	Kids Winter Arts
	Students Bible Study
	Adult Bible Study

Tuesdays

10:00 am	Women's Bible Study
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Wednesdays- starting January 7

5:00 pm	Family Meal
5:30 pm	Students Meal & Recharge
5:45 pm	TeamKID
6:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	Prayer Meeting
	Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal

(Choir will not resume until January 21)

FROM THE PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Happy New Year 2026, Preschool Families! 

We are so excited to begin a brand-new year with you and your little ones! As we step into 2026, our hearts are full of gratitude and fresh energy to continue serving your families with love, purpose, and joy.

On Sundays, our Preschool Ministry will be diving into an exciting theme during Sunday School called "Camp Believe It!"—a fun and meaningful journey designed to help our children grow in faith and confidence as they learn how much God loves them.

 17 Preschool Ministry Schedule:
First Service: 8:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Second Service: 11:00 AM

We are also open and happy to serve on Sunday afternoons during choir rehearsals and Bible studies, where our children will explore a missions-focused theme, and on Wednesdays with our joyful and creative program Music Makers.

Our Preschool Ministry lovingly serves children from 2 months old through Kindergarten, with dedicated teachers who are ready and eager to care for and encourage each child. We are also excited to welcome new volunteers who feel called to serve alongside our team. There are many opportunities available, depending on your gifts and talents—there truly is a place for everyone!

We look forward to a year filled with growth, laughter, learning, and new beginnings. Thank you for trusting us with your precious children. Here's to starting 2026 with renewed hearts, joyful expectations, and lots of little smiles!

With gratitude and excitement,
Plashiel Rojas
Preschool Director



Applications are now being taken for part-time nursery workers & pianist. Must be a Christian & an active member of a Baptist church. Applications & job descriptions are available in the church office.

DOWNLOAD
OUR APP!



When the Weather Outside is Frightful

In case of inclement weather on a church day, please check KSWO, FBW Facebook page, or sign up for our text alert for information on closings or changes in schedule. Use the [QR code or text FBWTEXT to \(580\)634-8234 to sign up for schedule change text messages](#). We will try to have information posted by 3 pm on Wednesdays and 7 am on Sundays.



Ice help. Occasionally we have ice and snow on the days we have church. On those days, we need help shoveling snow or putting out ice melt. If you would be willing to help, please contact the church office. Your service and sacrifice will be very much appreciated.



HAPPY New Year
REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AND AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE.
PHIL 4:4

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

December		Sunday School	
Average		Attendance	
Preschool	12	Dec 7	198
Children	13	Dec 14	No SS
Youth	27	Dec 21	183
Adults	126	Dec 28	151
Total	177		

Deacons/Yokefellows on Call

December 28 – January 3

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

January 4 – December 13

Primary: Quinton Murr 305-0784
Alternate: Steve Larsen 951-3978

December 14 – December 20

Primary: Danny Reeise 704-0458
Alternate: Ed Petersen 536-3510

December 21 – December 27

Primary: Larry Thompson 595-1799
Alternate: Craig Shelton 583-6693

December 28 – January 3

Primary: Martin Williams 405-829-0168
Alternate: Trevor Whitworth 536-5001

2025 Contribution Statements will be available by the end of the month. Please make sure to check the bulletin for more information.

Oklahoma Worship Choir CDs for Sale!

A large number of our FBW Worship Choir members are a part of the Oklahoma Worship Choir that recorded 13 new Christmas worship choir songs! CDs of our AMAZING choir are for sale in the foyer for only \$10. Previous year CDs for \$5!



Baby Shower for Mykayla & Josh Swinford

Saturday, January 10 at 1:00pm. Registered at Amazon



Emergency Response Team Training

Jan 17 & 31 | 8 am-10 am

In the Conference Room

All ERT personnel or those who wish to be involved in the ERT need to plan on attending one of the trainings so you can be part of keeping FBW safe!

JANUARY 2026