



**EXPERIENCE FAITH**

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

*Encounter God*

MATTHEW 18:20

*Experience God Together*

MATTHEW 22:37-40

*Empty Self*

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

Vol. 29 No. 1

January 2026

WICHITA FALLS, TX

**CO** **NEW**  
**N** *year*  
**O** **NEW**  
**N** *grace*  
**N** **NEW**  
**N** *praise*

**Therefore, if anyone is in  
Christ, he is a new creation;  
the old has passed away,  
and see, the new has come!**

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

## From The Pastor

Thank you from me and all our staff for your goodies, meaningful Christmas cards, and gifts this past month. Your thoughts expressed great love, and it was a wonderful Christmas season with our church family.

I want to thank all our staff for their continued love for and ministry to the church. A shoutout this month goes especially to Justin Green. Did you know that he took two weeks of personal vacation just to work on installing the Christmas train exhibit? He also invested personal expense getting everything built and running this season. That was an act of love to all of us that we thoroughly enjoyed. Justin and our staff are the best!!!

Welcome to 2026! Even as our personal calendars turn over to a new year, be aware that God also often uses the beginning of a new year to initiate new healing, spiritual growth, and transformational work in our lives. Are you asking our Lord to take your relationship with Him to the next level in the coming year? My salvation will not be complete and glorified until I get to heaven. But I personally plan to know Jesus more intimately and become more conformed to His image this time next year than I am today. Take some time to ask God to search your heart, reveal His plans and ways to you, and to lead you into an even deeper relationship with Him than you have known!

I will continue preaching through the gospel of John in January, picking up the resurrection of Lazarus in chapter 11. This last section of John's gospel begins an extensive look at the arrest, trials, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our salvation. Though we are well into this gospel, I encourage you to continue to invite others to church. Truth about Christ and salvation will be evident in each Sunday's message. Will you think of an individual or a family that might be open to begin a new year by attending church? Just an invitation and offer to meet them at the door that Sunday can go a long way toward someone's eventual salvation. We hear of this in our baptism videos often.

We kick off our Winter Wednesday meals and equip classes with a specially planned Lord's Supper Wednesday, January 14. I hope to see you there!

Press on to **EXPERIENCE FAITH! ENCOUNTER GOD...EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER...EMPTY SELF!** I look forward to seeing you throughout January!

Grace and love to you!

Pastor Craig

## Staff Anniversaries

Three staff members observing anniversaries in January are church pianist Barry Plaxco (27 years), Building Supervisor Don Wood (35 years), and Media/Tech Coordinator Justin Green (10 years). We will recognize Don and Justin Sunday, January 25. Give them thanks and show your appreciation for their service.

## Save The Dates

**2026 DNow – January 23-25**

**Youth 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

Additional details to come.

Plan now to attend and bring a friend!

**Pray For Israel  
and Ukraine**

## Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones:

**KATHY JACKSON** – sister

**VIRGINA NEWTON** – brother

**FAMILY OF BILL MOYER**

**JODY FOUNTAIN** – sister

**SHARON LYLE** – brother

**CHRISTI HALL** – mother-in-law

**SAMMYE WALDRIP** – brother

**FAMILY OF WALTER WILLIAMS**

## Senior Adults



### Mondays — 10:15 a.m. Reception Hall

Faith Singers rehearse Mondays at 10:15 a.m. in Reception Hall. All adults 50+ are welcome to sing God's praises with this group. The choir sings Monday, January 12 at 10:30 a.m. at Brookdale Sikes Lake, 2649 Plaza Parkway. The bus will leave the church at 10:00 a.m.

Our monthly senior adult luncheon is Monday, January 5. The menu is soups (provided) and salads so bring a salad or dessert. The program will be presented by Keith Beanland, MSU BSM director. The luncheon begins at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall and everyone is welcome.

**Senior Adult Leadership Team** meeting is Tuesday, January 20 at 10:30 a.m. in room 501.

Our **Temple Builders** exercise group meets each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. in room 132. The FLiC walking track is open Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join us as we get fit!

## Congratulations

**DAVID & LAURIE MACE** —

on the birth of their grandson, Alfred David.

**DWIGHT & ALYSSA HAM** —

on the birth of their son, Riley Quinn.

## Abide Women's Ministry

All ladies are invited to attend

**BIBLE STUDY** — Thursdays, January 8 – 29 at 6:15 p.m. in room 145

**GAME NIGHT** — Monday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the FLiC

**BOOK CLUB** — Sunday, January 18 at 4:00 p.m. at Frank & Joe's on Kemp Blvd.

**BAKING CLUB** — Sunday, January 25 at 3:00 p.m. in the FLiC Kitchen

Anyone interested in joining a dinner group, please contact Delynn Mabry at 940-733-6830.

For information, contact Lauren Welch at 940-631-0579, stay connected to Abide by liking them on Facebook at "Faith Baptist Church – Abide Women's Ministry" or go to faithwf.com to see event dates and times.

## Note This . . .

➤ Church offices will be closed Thursday, January 1 to observe the New Year holiday.

➤ For contributions to be credited for 2025, they must be received in the Church Office by noon Wednesday, December 31 or postmarked December 31.

➤ To assist parents with restless children, the Parent Room is available to your right as you sit in the Worship Center. Sound, windows into the Worship Center, and subdued lighting are available.

➤ Large print editions of the Sunday Sermon Notes are available at the tables on either side of the Worship Center.

➤ Our Faith family Wednesday fellowship suppers resume January 14, and our full Wednesday schedule resumes January 21. On January 14, we will have a unique observance of the Lord's Supper.

➤ Our volunteer Kitchen Crew needs more members. If you can help in our Family Life Center kitchen either Wednesday morning or Wednesday afternoon contact Associate Pastor Larry Shields or Food Services Coordinator Sue Bartlett-Kosman for more information. We appreciate each of our Kitchen Crew members and the great work they do making our Wednesday night meals possible.

➤ Church Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday (closed Fridays).

➤ Our Sunday School meets each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Online streaming of Pastor Craig's messages are available early in the week.

## Empty Self

Operation Christmas Child area collection week was held at Faith again this year. 17,388 boxes and 1,146 cartons from 11 counties filled 3 semi-trucks and overflowed into a 4th truck. A huge thank you goes to Charlotte Gill and the many volunteers who helped with this event.

Thank you to each person who assisted with our Ministry Tree project. We received \$675 in donations for our Del Rio missionaries Shon and Jeanine Young, 15 homebound members were visited, and 109 cards were taken that resulted in many donated items being delivered to Patsy's House. We have been blessed, and it is wonderful to bless others, especially during the Christmas season. Thank you so much.

\$2,025 was given as of December 15 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, 100% of which will go to our international missionaries for their work in the country where they serve.



## Thank You

Acknowledgments have been received in the Church Office from:

**BRUCE & CHRISTI HALL**

**MIKE & KATHLEEN SNOW**

**THE LADIES OF FAITH REFUGE**

Our appreciation goes to Linda Ward, Teresa Austin and each person who assisted with decorating our Worship Center for the Christmas season. Also to Justin Green for the Christmas village train display. We are grateful for these and their help with our celebration of the Christmas season.

Many thanks go to our Faith Christmas Choir and Orchestra for leading us in musical worship on December 14 in both services. We have had a better Christmas celebration because of your hard work and dedication shared with us throughout the month.

The church staff thanks you for all the acts and words of kindness during the Christmas season. We are grateful for your love, support and encouragement.

## Wednesday Activities Resume

The winter and spring semester of Wednesday night activities begins soon! January 14 we begin with our family meal at 5:30 p.m. and start our semester with a time of communion together around the Lord's table at 6:15. New Adult Equip classes and children's activities begin January 21. A list of adult equip classes will be available soon. Plan to join us as we Experience God Together in 2026!

## Bridge to the Badge

Bridge to the Badge Ministry has named our own Debbie Wimberley as their 2025 Volunteer of the Year for her work with Fire Station #8 as well as other fire stations throughout our city. Debbie is part of our team of Curtis Ward and Jerry and Sue Cedrone who take meals, offer prayers, and build relationships with our firefighters throughout the year. We are proud of Debbie and the entire team, and thank each person who has assisted with meals in 2025.

# Financial Report

## Budget Receipts as of December 22, 2025

Budget Goal (51 weeks)	\$1,913,434	
Budget Receipts (51 weeks)	\$1,518,781	79.37%
Budget Expenditures (51 weeks)	\$1,553,438	81.19%

**Giving through text** message is available! Text **FBCtxt** and the **amount** you want to give to **73256**. When you make your first contribution you will need to set up your account information, which will be saved, so that future contributions will be quick and easy. This option is available for general budget contributions only.

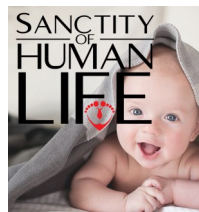
**Online giving** is available using your debit card. Go to [faithwf.com](http://faithwf.com) and click on the online giving link. You will have the same options that are available on your offering envelope and will receive a receipt for your contribution.

**Did you know** that you can make your tithe and offering by using your bank's online bill pay? You can schedule your contribution check to be sent automatically to the church as a true first fruit of what the Lord has blessed you with. Just set Faith Baptist Church as a payee, enter "general budget" or your envelope number for the account number and 3001 Southwest Pkwy, Wichita Falls, TX 76308 as the address. You can then choose a regular monthly, twice monthly, or weekly schedule.

**Monthly, we mail envelope** packets with an envelope for each Sunday. If you give once a month and prefer to be on a list to be mailed 12 envelopes per year, please notify the Administration Office. You can email Sheryl Alexander at [sheryla@faithwf.com](mailto:sheryla@faithwf.com), or call the Church Office. It takes a couple of months for our envelope mailing service to make the change. Thank you for helping us be good stewards.

## College Graduates

This fall semester we had four college students complete their undergraduate degree at MSU Texas. Please join us in celebrating with: Mallory Bailey, Rylee Hammond, Ben Hill and Natasha Moore! We wish you God's best in the next chapter of life!



The sanctity of life means that humanity is more sacred than the rest of creation. Human life is not holy in the same sense that God is holy. Only God is holy in and of Himself. Human life is only holy in the sense of being "set apart" from all other life created by God.



### ENCOUNTER GOD

- In daily life (through prayer, Bible reading and pursuing Him personally).
- In worship with other believers (make worship of Him a priority each Sunday).

### EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER

- By connecting with and being active in a Sunday School class or Small Group (praying, teaching, sharing life and serving together).
- By attending weekly Wednesday family meals and age-group studies (fellowship and equipping).

### EMPTY SELF

- By finding places in your life where you serve God through serving others outside our church.
- By finding a specific place in our church where you serve God and serve others (childcare, teaching, greeting, kitchen crew, mission trips, going where needed, etc.).