



Encounter God

MATTHEW 18:20

Experience God Together

MATTHEW 22:37-40

Empty Self

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

EXPERIENCE FAITH

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 28 No. 9

September 2025

WICHITA FALLS, TX

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Whereas, in Wichita Falls, Texas, the City that Faith Built, churches have been lighthouses to not only Wichita Falls but the entire area; and,

Whereas, Faith Baptist Church of Wichita Falls is one of those lighthouses that has been shining and spreading the word of God for 75 years; and,

Whereas, after years of its location in Faith Village, the church moved to its current location on Southwest Parkway in 1976 and has overcome many trials and tribulations since its charter in 1950; and,

Whereas, the church has endured a tragic fire, suffered heavy damage in the 1979 tornado, and has overcome many other challenges that have strengthened the fellowship and witness of Faith Baptist in this area.

Now, therefore, I, Tim Short, Mayor of Wichita Falls, do hereby proclaim August 10, 2025, as

Faith Baptist Church of Wichita Falls Day

in Wichita Falls, with pride, and urge that we all help this congregation celebrate these 75 years with gratitude and an increased faith in God to lead in the years to come.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Wichita Falls.

Tim Short
Mayor of Wichita Falls

8/10/25
Date

From The Pastor

The summer is behind us. The cooler weather and coming holiday season make this time of year the favorite for me and many others. It is also a refreshing time in the church. Sunday School classes get new workers and class visitors. A great assortment of adult equip classes kick off on Wednesdays. And we either kick off a new preaching series or this year continue our walk through the incredible Gospel of John. If you have not been coming this is a great time to plug back in to worship. We are beginning John 8 which covers the last 5 months leading up to Jesus's death and resurrection. This gospel is packed with incredible teachings that motivate us to respond. If you have drifted away from your church family, worship, and experiencing Christ with others, now is a great time to jump back in.

Caleb Parrish and I had an incredibly productive trip recently to see our missionary family, the Ostermanns, in Uganda. It was probably the most informative trip I have taken (which was the fourth time I have been there). Klint made the most out of every minute he had us. And I am deeply thankful for his involving us so fully into his ministry. Caleb and I admit some hesitancy at first being in Uganda and attending classes for Farming God's Way all day Tuesday through Friday. But experiencing his ministry was even more fulfilling than what I could have envisioned his ministry to be. Our trip was a tiring one and certainly not a vacation trip. But it was deeply satisfying and fulfilling. And I would be remiss to not mention the joy of being with the Ostermanns. My love and respect for them is very deep! If you would like to get an idea of our trip, Caleb has put together an excellent link you can go to for pictures, a daily diary, and even some videos. You can find it at ugandatrip.my.canva.site.

September 19 Robin and I will celebrate 38 years of marriage. I have often stated that a minister without full support from his wife is handicapped in his ministry, and likely not to last in ministry long-term. Robin has loved the church, partnered in my calling, and sacrificed in many ways to walk beside me and support my calling. She is a phenomenal wife, mother, and grandmother. And though she hates the title, I think she carries the title of first lady of Faith Baptist with great dignity, humility, and faithfulness. She does not like the spotlight, but you can find her "front and center" in late service every week. Take time to give her a hug and thank her for sharing me so willingly with you and with our Lord.

Speaking of marriage, Adam Turnbo's wedding is getting close! He and Josie Wise will be married September 12. They are having a small wedding and Adam regrets that everyone will not be able to attend in their small venue. But I know you rejoice with me and will greet them with love and cheers when they return to us.

EXPERIENCE FAITH! ENCOUNTER GOD...EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER...EMPTY SELF! I look forward to seeing you throughout October! Grace and love to you!

Pastor Craig



Our 8th annual Operation Christmas Child packing party will be Wednesday, October 15 from 6:30-7:30 in the FLIC. Collection will begin September 7 and bins will be located in the Worship Center foyer, by the Church Office and in the FLIC hallway. Items we are collecting: **Personal Items** (combs, washcloths, toothbrushes etc.), **School Supplies** (pencils, crayons, notepads, etc.), **WOW toys** (soccer balls with pumps, stuffed animal/doll, **Small Toys** (cars, yoyos, jump ropes, small balls, etc.) **All items must fit in a shoebox. No food/candy, war-related toys, or liquid items (including toothpaste). Postage to mail 1 box is \$10.00. If you would like to help pay the postage, be sure and mark your donation for OCC postage.** Last year we filled over 380 boxes. Check out our Operation Christmas Child Amazon wish list by scanning the QR code or going to this link: <https://a.co/86YZ8Ga>.



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 **Tuesday, September 2** at 10:30 a.m. at Royal Estates, 3908 Kell West Boulevard. The bus will leave the church at 10:00 a.m.

Our monthly senior adult luncheon is Monday, September 8. The menu is "Favorite Dish Day" so bring your favorite dish (with your name and the printed recipe for the dish). The program will be "Better Health for Seniors" presented by URHC personnel. The luncheon begins at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall and everyone is welcome.

Our **Temple Builders** exercise group meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in room 122. The FLiC walking track is open Wednesday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Come join us as we get fit!

Deacons' Meeting

Sunday, September 7
12:30 p.m. — Room 501

We appreciate the faithful ministry of our deacons to our congregation members.

Church Staff

Ben Hill celebrates his two year anniversary as our Website and Social Media Coordinator and Micah Lawrence celebrates one year as custodian. Take time to express your thanks to them for their leadership and service among us.

Madelyn (Maddie) Land began work August 18 as our youth ministry intern and Todd Smith began work August 26 as our preschool/children's ministry intern. Both Maddie and Todd are college students. We welcome them as they work with Caleb Parrish and Mandy Ratliff and our preschool, children, youth and their families.

Sympathy

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

FAMILY OF PAT KING

Note This . . .

- The church offices will be closed September 1 for Labor Day.
- Our annual Faith t-shirt distribution will follow each worship service Sunday, August 31. This is Labor Day weekend, so make worship attendance a part of your family's holiday celebration plans and receive a church t-shirt. (You must be present to receive a shirt.)
- Are you looking for a way to **EMPTY SELF** and an opportunity to share the love of Jesus with children? We are needing volunteers for our Good News Club at Milam Elementary starting in September on Mondays from 3:30-5:00. For more information please contact Mandy Ratliff at mandyr@faithfw.com.
- October 1 Jeff and Lainey Johnson will share about their mission work in Kenya following our regular Wednesday night supper.
- Large print editions of the Sunday Sermon Notes are available at the tables on either side of the Worship Center.
- Preparation of the proposed 2026 church budget has begun as staff and program heads present their requests to the Administration Office by August 31.
- 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 at 8:00 a.m. each Sunday.

Congratulations

MICHAEL AND ARIANNA NEELEY —

on the birth of their daughter, Sophie Rose. Proud grandparents are David and Melanie Martin and great-grandmother is Michelle Swaggart.

Reach Texas State Missions Offering

September 1 begins our month-long emphasis on our Reach Texas state missions offering. This annual offering is a way for us to participate in the Great Commission across Texas as more churches are started and more people are reached for Christ. 100% of funds contributed goes to missions and ministry with no administrative costs deducted. A prayer guide for our week of prayer September 1-7 will be in the Sunday, August 31 bulletin. Offering envelopes are at the missions desk in the Worship Center main foyer. Thank you for praying and giving.

Wednesdays – a Place for You!

Our incredible midweek opportunities to **EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER** are in full swing but it is never too late for you to find your spot if you haven't already!

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.

Our Faith family fellowship suppers are each Wednesday in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$5/person (\$20 family maximum for immediate family members; college students \$2.00). Tickets are available each Wednesday starting at 5:15, with serving beginning at 5:30 p.m.

6:15 – 7:15 p.m.

Students 7-12 grade meet in Fellowship Hall, Faith Kids grades 1-6 meet upstairs in the FLiC and Mini Kids Grow and Play and Mission Friends for 4's and 5's meet in the Preschool Wing. The four Adult equip classes are:

GENESIS

NO COST

ROOM 122

A multi-semester deep dive into the first book of God's revelation, the book of our foundations – where many of our doctrines are established, the book that is quoted and attacked more than any other – without leaving our science or brains at the door. Taught by Mike Snow.

HE SPEAKS TO ME

COST \$20

ROOM 123

In an updated 20th anniversary version, this series teaches through the Biblical examples of Samuel, Moses, Joshua, Jesus' disciples, and many others how to position yourself to hear the voice of God and respond to it. Come explore six characteristics that help you tune your heart to hear God's voice: relationship, holiness, attentiveness, single-minded worship, hunger, and a servant's spirit. Led by Paula Compton with teaching from Priscilla Shirer. (also at 10:00 a.m. in Reception Hall)

GOSPELER

NO COST

ROOM 124

When Jesus commissioned His disciples to go and make disciples, He invited all His followers—including us—to join His work in the world. As followers of Christ, we have the best news that everyone needs. In the study ***Gospeler: Turning Darkness into Light One Conversation at a Time***, author and businessman Willie Robertson encourages us to embrace our identity as "gospelers," ready and able to share the good news of Jesus. We don't have to preach to share the gospel; we simply need to have meaningful conversations. Facilitated by John Gill, Dwayne McKee and Kevin Thomas.

THE BEATITUDES

NO COST

RECEPTION HALL

What does it mean to be blessed? And, more importantly, how do we become someone who is blessed? The kind of life God is calling us to may not look the way we imagined, but it will be better than we could have hoped. The Beatitudes show us what it means to live in the kingdom of God. Through Jesus' teaching, we can learn what the blessed life really looks like. Facilitated by Brett Storseth with teaching of Matt Chandler.

6:15 p.m. — Blended instrumental team rehearsal — Worship Center

7:30 p.m. — Contemporary worship team rehearsal — Worship Center

7:30 p.m. — Worship Choir rehearsal — Choir Room, and Youth Hangout — FLiC

Financial Report

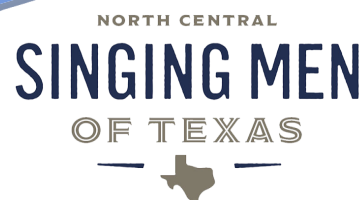
Budget Receipts as of August 25, 2025

Budget Goal (34 weeks)	\$1,275,622	
Budget Receipts (34 weeks)	\$ 949,992	74.47%
Budget Expenditures (34 weeks)	\$1,008,574	79.07%

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 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.



The Singing Men of Texas – North Central choir is traveling to the Baltic Sea region of northern Europe for an evangelistic mission September 15-26. They will sing and share the gospel in six countries bordering on the Baltic Sea. David Harrington, David Mace, and Larry Shields will represent our church on this trip, and they ask that you undergird the spiritual and physical arrangements now and during the trip with sincere, fervent prayer.

Foundations Sunday September 7

The next Foundations Sunday for those ready to join our Faith Baptist family or who want to hear more about who we are and what it means to be a member here is coming September 7! Participants will meet for a great breakfast session at 9:45 and a wonderful dinner session at 5:30 in room 524b. If you know someone who needs to come, they can sign up by marking the bulletin tear off and placing it in the offering stands or taking it to the **E³ CENTRAL** desk or simply calling the Church Office! Deadline for sign up is August 31.

Pray For Israel and Ukraine

Abide Women's Ministry

Registration is open for the 3rd Abide Women's Ministry Conference: **"Abide in Rest"** Saturday, September 6 from 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Cost is \$10. Register by scanning the QR code or going to faithwf.com. Scholarships are available. Conference speaker is Rachel Lovingood.



All ladies are welcome to:

BIBLE STUDY — Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. in room 145

BAKING CLUB — Sunday, September 21 at 3:00 p.m. in the FLiC Kitchen

BOOK CLUB — Sunday, September 21 at 4:00 p.m. at Frank & Joes on Kemp Blvd

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 all event date and times.