



Encounter God

MATTHEW 18:20

Experience God Together

MATTHEW 22:37-40

Empty Self

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

EXPERIENCE FAITH

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 29 No. 5

May 2026

WICHITA FALLS, TX

May Celebration Events

3 - Graduate Day (in both worship services)

10 - Mother's Day and commissioning
of our college summer missionaries

13 - Last Wednesday night meal
and 6:15 p.m. Islam study

17 - Annual all-church late afternoon picnic
at Lucy Park

There are additional opportunities for ministry
and discipleship throughout May.

Experience God Together with us!

From The Pastor

The Lord is blessing our church! My observation is that these blessings are because we "kept His word and not denied His name." (Revelation 3:8) We have kept Christ's word by prioritizing it, obeying it, making it a central aspect of our gathering, and unapologetically proclaiming it rather than explaining it away to appease the culture. We have not denied the name of Jesus by unapologetically declaring other religions and salvation apart from Christ as false. We have invited Jesus to be our Light, our Shepherd, and our Life. Our worship services are running an extra forty to forty-five people (8% increase) over this time last year. We have doubled salvations and baptisms we had at this time last year. We are having large numbers of new members who are devout believers seeking a more Bible-centered church and new believers who grew up totally apart from Christ and the church. We have twelve college students devoting part or all of their summer to missions, and the Baptist state convention has appointed a number of our college students to serve internationally this summer in more demanding and difficult places, and even in some "closed countries." Our church is a loving and unified family in a world full of hate and division among those of differing gender, generational, educational, and political views. We have numerous ministries that are very diverse and bearing spiritual fruit. And our senior adults are adding new members as they actively minister to one another, to all ages in the church, and to those outside of the church. I love my church family! I cherish the overseers and deacons of this church. I am honored to serve beside an incredible staff!

I have been pondering and praying about "God's appointed time" to finish the Gospel of John that we started January 5, 2025. I knew I could not finish by summer, but we usually plan some special summer theme to kick off our Fall Semester. I am excited about what I have sensed God doing. On May 24 we will leave the Upper Room Discourse in John 14 and go to Judas' betrayal and the arrest in Jesus in John 18. We will cover the death, burial, resurrection and appearances of Jesus until the completion of John chapter 21. Then on August 9 we will go back to the Upper Room and cover some exceptionally powerful teachings of Jesus in John 15-17 through the Fall and ending in December with our Christmas season. John 15-17 is one of the most powerful sections in the Gospel. In John 15 Jesus teaches Christians our responsibilities with Him, believers, and the world. In John 16 Jesus teaches the coming and ministry of the Holy Spirit. And in John 17 we have the Lord's greatest prayer. The gospel of John has had a great impact on many of us. I am certain that gospel will continue to impact us throughout this year!

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

Grace and love to you!
Pastor Craig

Pray For Israel and Ukraine



National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 7

Glorify God Among the Nations -
Seeking Him in All Generations

National Day of Prayer Thursday noon event will be held in the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church, 1200 Ninth.

Foundations
Sunday
June 14

9:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

If you know people who are new to Faith in the past several months and are ready to join, then tell them to save Sunday, June 14 so they can participate in the next Foundations Sunday! Sign up will begin mid-May.

EXPERIENCE FAITH

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, May 11 at 10:30 a.m. at House of Hope, 5100 Stone Lake Drive. The bus will leave the church at 10:00 a.m.

There is no monthly senior adult luncheon in May due to the Adult Spring Dinner held April 24.

Senior Adult Leadership Team meeting is Tuesday, May 19 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 Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. Come join us as we get fit!

May-Him Celebration
for all senior adults

Tuesday, May 5



May-Him is the annual event where area senior adult choirs gather at Camp Chaparral to present worship music and sing together as a congregation. The event is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 5. Cost is \$14.00 per person, which includes lunch. This event is open to choir members and anyone else who would like to attend. If not already registered, you will need to pay at the door.

Staff Anniversary

Congratulations to Pastor Craig on his seventeenth anniversary, Caleb Parrish completes seven years as Minister of Youth/Missions and Viviana Garcia celebrates two years in the Finance Office this month. Take time to express your thanks to them for their leadership and service among us.

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones:
LARRY WHALEY – brother

Note This . . .

- A book of reports will be available to church members May 17 at the **E³ CENTRAL** desk in the main foyer of the Worship Center.
- Church Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday (closed Fridays). The offices will be closed Monday, May 25 to celebrate the Memorial Day holiday.
- Wednesday night Faith Family Fellowship suppers – our final meal of the semester is May 13, after which we will have a special presentation at 6:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall on Islam led by Minister of Youth and Missions Caleb Parrish. As Christians we need to have an understanding of the teachings of Islam and how it affects our nation, our state, our city and our families.
- We are asking that on Sunday mornings the parking lot between the building and Rhea Road be reserved for senior adults and others with physical limitations who have difficulty walking from more distant parking areas. Please help us with this on Sunday mornings.
- Large print editions of the Sunday Sermon Notes are available at the tables on either side of the Worship Center.
- Run-off election for the fall general election will be held Tuesday, May 26. Sample ballots, voting locations, etc. will be at a Community Impact Team table in the Worship Center foyer Sundays, May 10, 17, and 24. Early voting is May 18-22. We encourage you to exercise your privilege and responsibility of voting.
- The church is seeking a full-time custodian to work with Don Wood and Micah Lawrence. Benefits are provided and hours are somewhat flexible. Application forms and job description are available in the Church Office for interested persons.
- By decision of our Overseer Council, Caleb Parrish, our Minister of Youth and Missions, has become an apprentice overseer to meet with the council and be trained in the work of an overseer. We appreciate Caleb and his ministry, his leadership and his commitment to our church.
- 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.

Children's Ministry

Our **Children's Bible Drill** team traveled to the state drill Saturday, April 11 in Allen. We are proud of 3 children who participated and their leaders Pam Morath, coordinator, and Dubby Speegle.

Faith Kids VBS will be June 8-13. This is for completed kindergarten through 5th grade. Registration is open online at faithwf.com/children.

FaithKids VBS Neighborhood Blitz help us spread the word about VBS! We're looking for volunteers to join us Sunday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m. as we canvas the neighborhood around Ben Milam Elementary. It's simple — grab a stack of door hangers from the FLiC, pick a street, and help us invite families to be part of FaithKids VBS!

This is an easy, impactful way to reach our community and get kids connected. We'd love for you to be part of it!

Preteen Camp will be at Camp Copass in Denton, TX, July 13-17. This is for completed 4th-6th graders. The total cost this year is \$160. A \$50 deposit is required to reserve your spot for camp. Registration is now open at faithwf.com/children. Payments should be made in the Church Office with Jo Ann Larimore.



Save the Date

Mark your calendar now so you can join us at Lucy Park under the Pavillion for games, music, family time, and lots of great food-truck-based food Sunday evening, May 17. Details will be available soon, but you won't want to miss one of the highlights of our church family fellowships each year! So, dig out your favorite Hawaiian shirt for church that morning and plan to come eat and fellowship together at that park that evening!

Abide Women's Ministry

- BIBLE STUDY** — Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. in Reception Hall
 - GAME NIGHT** — Monday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the FLiC
 - BOOK CLUB** — Sunday, May 17 at 4:00 p.m. at McAlister's Deli, 3900 Call Field Rd.
 - DINNER GROUPS** — Contact Delynn Mabry at 940-733-6830
- More information: Lauren Welch (940-631-0579), on Facebook at "Faith Baptist Church – Abide Women's Ministry" and at faithwf.com

Sunday Schedule

Coming Sunday, June 7 – Sunday morning schedule change:

Blended early worship service –
8:15-9:30 a.m.

Sunday School –
9:45-10:45 a.m.

Contemporary late worship service –
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

This schedule adds fifteen minutes to both services and allows for some additional worship elements that leadership believes will enhance our worship together as we **ENCOUNTER GOD**.

Organ Pipes

The displayed pipes on our Worship Center organ no longer work and could not be repaired, so we made arrangements with a church in Houston to remove the pipes and use them for decorative purposes in their Worship Center. The pipes will be removed soon. We are still using the electronic part of the organ, which we have been doing for some time. As part of this process of change, we are also considering some cosmetic updates to our Worship Center. More information will be forthcoming.

Financial Report

Budget Receipts as of April 20, 2026

Budget Goal (16 weeks)	\$ 646,975	
Budget Receipts (16 weeks)	\$ 480,975	74.34%
Budget Expenditures (16 weeks)	\$ 536,576	88.47%
North American Missions Offering	\$ 2,885	

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.

At the congregation's request, we are providing a QR code to assist in contributing to our church as God leads you. We appreciate your faithful, consistent giving to our ministries and missions underwritten by our church budget.



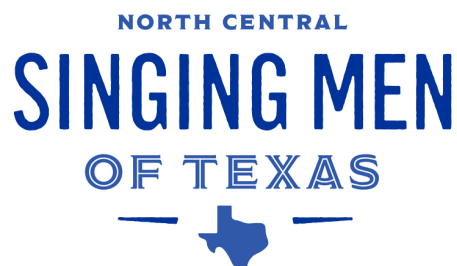
Monthly, we mail envelope packets with an envelope for each Sunday. If you give once a month and prefer to be on a list to be mailed 12 envelopes per year, please notify the Administration Office. You can email Sheryl Alexander at sheryla@faithwf.com, or call the Church Office. It takes a couple of months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

Walk For Life

Join the Saturday, May 9 "Life a Bubblin" Walk for Life/5K Bubble Fun Run to support The Center, Wichita Falls' pregnancy center.

Go to donate.thecenterwf.org to sign up for our team (use team name: **Abide ministries Faith Baptist**). Contact Rachel Lauer or Jessica Torres for more information.

Our Community Impact Team will conduct a church-wide Baby Shower for The Center on Sundays, May 10 and May 17. A list of needed items will be in the May 3 bulletin. Let's show our love and support for this great work by providing items needed by new mothers and their babies.



Thursday, May 7

7:00 p.m. – First Baptist Church
1200 Ninth Street

There is no admission charge but a love offering for the choir's mission trips is received. Our own Justin Green, David Harrington, David Mace, H.B. Nutt and Larry Shields are members of this choir.

Youth Summer Events

FALLS CREEK YOUTH CAMP — JUNE 22-JUNE 27

Students 7-12 grades — Cost \$250 per person

YOUTH MISSION TRIP — IN BURNET COUNTY, TX — JULY 13-18

Students 7-12 grades — Cost TBA

Registration for both camp and mission trip are open at faithwf.com/students.

Contact Jo Ann Larimore in the Church Office 692-4220 or joannl@faithwf.com for additional information.