



Encounter God

MATTHEW 18:20

Experience God Together

MATTHEW 22:37-40

Empty Self

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

EXPERIENCE FAITH

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 24 No. 8

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WICHITA FALLS, TX

# T-Shirt Sunday

September 5



**You must  
be present  
to receive  
a shirt.**

**Distributed following  
both morning services**

## From The Pastor

Do you realize how key September is for families? School has begun, schedules are filling, and every family chooses and establishes its priorities. With numerous options, families clearly identify to God and others what their family will, shall we say, worship. Sundays come into play in these scheduling decisions. Do we go to church . . . or to a higher priority event? After all, church meets 52 times a year. What does it hurt to miss once or twice, or once a month, or every other week? On a Facebook page I was reminded recently of a post from 2015. "Papa" was living out his last days of a fight with cancer and unbeknownst to him his grandson took a selfie sitting by him in worship and posted it on Facebook, stating how impressed he was with his grandfather's faithful attendance at church every week. Papa's answer to the question about coming when he could barely walk or sleep, was no longer eating and was in great pain, was still to attend worship. The grandfather's response was, "If Jesus could walk to the cross for me, as long as I'm alive I can walk into church for Him." The grandson was my son, Micaiah. The man was my father-in-law, Bill McMullen. Three weeks after Bill said those words he passed from this life into the presence of Jesus. There is also a recent Facebook quote from the Christian church in Afghanistan immediately after the Taliban took control: "We will gather, and likely die." The webpage then says, "The church in America. We will gather . . . unless there is a cookout, birthday party, or if it's a nice day, or there's a chance of rain, or I'm a little tired or something." We should consider the handful of Afghani saints walking close to Jesus and lukewarm American churches these last days. I am convinced part of the problem is that we consider each Sunday whether to "go to church" rather than prioritizing every Sunday for the corporate worship of Jesus (**ENCOUNTER GOD**), to gather with believers for prayer/Bible study/sharing life/serving (**EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER**), and whether to love Christ and others above self (**EMPTY SELF**). The days grow darker and point more to Christ's coming judgment. The sermons in Ephesians have clearly proclaimed that Christians are not merely to accept the blessings of God. We are to put off this world and put on Christ as an appropriate response for those who Biblically hear and then obey our sovereign Lord with all our eternal blessings!

In worship we begin Ephesians 6 with its instructions on the call to spiritual arms in order to stand against the spiritual warfare we are in. Wednesdays we are having great fellowship time around the supper table, followed by multiple adult equip classes and a schedule for all ages. This is a special time for the whole church to be together weekly. Sue Bartlett-Kosman and our kitchen crew are providing wonderful meals, and Brett, Caleb, Mandy and church leaders are providing excellent quality discipleship for all ages.

There is definitely no higher God-ordained place to imitate and learn the love of and for God and each other than in marriage and church. I have addressed church, so let's consider a great opportunity to strengthen marriages. It is our Marriage Conference at Faith Friday night, September 24. It is so important the staff has agreed to prioritize, attend and plan the night with childcare, youth and all ages engaged. Robin and I consider it so important that we will attend during our week of vacation in order to pray, support and minister to our families.

Do you know that our church is financially supporting 8 college or newly-married couples, with 3 ministering on the church staff and 5 ministering outside the church? These are incredibly gifted and spiritual young adults and we are blessed to be able to worship with, mentor and support them as they begin their ministries. Be sure and pray for and make a point to meet Adam Turnbo (Faith/family/music intern), Madi Smith (Faith/family intern), Kyler Crook (Faith/college intern), Jaycee Bruner (WF FCA), Trent and Megan Creacy (MSU BSM), and Tyler and Cindy McMurry (MSU BSM). I am extremely grateful God has entrusted these and many more devoted disciples of Christ to us to prepare for ministry.

Experience Faith! **ENCOUNTER GOD...EXPERIENCE GOD TOGETHER...EMPTY SELF!** I hope to see you Sunday! I send my love!

Pastor Craig

## Mary Hill Davis Mission Offering

The Mary Hill Davis Offering for state missions is received in September each year. Beginning September 5, envelopes will be available in the Worship Center foyer on the Missions Desk and also by the International Missions wall near the Preschool wing. Please begin to pray about what your offering will be this year. Prayer guides will also be in your bulletin on September 5.

## Senior Adults

Senior adult Saints Alive game day is the first Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon in Room 221 (take the FLiC elevator upstairs). Bring your favorite table games, snacks and drinks. For further information contact Jean Anderson at [jjean9@aol.com](mailto:jjean9@aol.com).

Senior adult monthly luncheon is Monday, September 13 with a pot luck menu followed by a video of comedian Dennis Swanberg and our Best Joke of the Luncheon contest. Bring a main dish, salads, vegetables, or desserts. The luncheon begins at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. All adults 50+ are welcome.

Our **Temple Builders** exercise group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in room 220. The FLiC walking track is open Wednesday mornings from 9:00-10:00. Come join us as we get fit!

**SALT Team** (Senior Adult Leadership Team) meeting is Thursday, September 9 at 10:30 a.m. in room 501.

## Congratulations


**KIM LIEVENSE** — birth of her twin granddaughters





Our 4th annual Operation Christmas Child packing party is Wednesday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the FLiC. Collection bins will be located in the Worship Center foyer, by the Church Office and in the FLiC September 19 through October 17 for shoebox items.


*I asked my wife if I had any annoying habits. . .  
but I got bored and wandered off during her  
Power Point presentation (it was over 60 slides!).*


## Note This . . .


 David Mace will begin directing blended worship service music beginning this coming Sunday and continuing for several weeks. We welcome David as he assists us in this way.


 We are taking applications for Food Services Coordinator. Sue Bartlett-Kosman is serving as our interim Food Services Coordinator. Applications are available in the Church Office for this paid position.

 Deacon Appreciation Sunday is September 12. We are so grateful for these men, who will meet at 12:15 p.m. that day in room 501 of the Family Life Center.

 Church office hours until further notice: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday (closed Fridays).

 Events/ministries still not meeting as of September 1: Senior Adult Choir rehearsal.

 Our Sunday School meets from 9:45-10:45 a.m. each Sunday. Online streaming of Pastor Craig's messages is available at 8:00 a.m. each Sunday.

 Wednesday evening Faith family fellowship suppers are in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$5/person (\$20 family maximum for immediate family members) and \$2 for college students. Tickets are available each Wednesday starting at 5:15, with serving beginning at 5:30 p.m.

## Marriage Night

Marriage Night is a one-night live-stream event designed to encourage husbands and wives with a refreshing vision for God-honoring relationships.

Healthy marriages do not happen by accident. They require work and dedication, but with the busyness of life and the pressures of culture, it is easy to lose focus. This conference is an opportunity to get the truth needed to flourish in relationships.

We call the period following a wedding "the honeymoon phase" for a reason - it is temporary. What is marriage supposed to look like when those initial bursts of excitement give way to everyday troubles and routines? Marriage night offers principles for a lasting relationship along with the challenge to see the greater purpose of marriage, namely, to glorify God and advance His gospel!

*Guest Speakers: J.D. & Veronica Greear, Jonathan & Kanika Evans, Aaron & Jamie Ivey, Dustin Nickerson*

**Friday, September 24**

**6:00-10:00 p.m.**

**Dinner Included/Childcare Provided  
\$15 per PERSON  
SIGN UP NOW!**

Register at [faithwf.com/marriage-night](http://faithwf.com/marriage-night)  
Or  
in person in the Worship Center foyer  
before and after worship services.

## Empty Self

**NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES TO EMPTY SELF.** The process of introducing people to Faith Baptist and moving them into membership here is going through some exiting changes for this fall, including the creation of a new ministry team to lead that process. This team will include individuals serving as on-call "Hosts" for potential new members, in helping with the two meals that will be part of the new process, and in greeting/directing in the events.

Also, the upcoming Marriage Night 2021 conference Friday, September 24 will need volunteers to help greet, register and take tickets, potentially serve and clear away the included catered meal, and other opportunities.

*If you are interested in either of these chances to "Empty Self,"* contact Teresa Austin at [taustin0124@gmail.com](mailto:taustin0124@gmail.com) or Brett Storseth at [bretts@faithwf.com](mailto:bretts@faithwf.com).

## Staff Anniversary

Loren Brock celebrates her eighth year as Finance Manager in September. Give her a word of thanks and show your appreciation for her service.

## Music Ministry

Worship Choir welcomes any adults who attend the 8:30 service who would like to sing with them to attend any upcoming Wednesday rehearsal (7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room).

If you play a musical instrument and would be willing to consider helping with music in either of our worship services, please contact Instrumental Coordinator Fred Roth (call or text 469-285-6362 or email [derfsax@sbcglobal.net](mailto:derfsax@sbcglobal.net)) to get more details.

Pray for the Music Ministry search committee: Kevin Austin, Mike Cowart, Bob Henry, Barry Plaxco, Kathy Simpson and Linda Ward. Suggestions and information about potential candidates can be shared with any of these persons. Be praying with us for God's person to be evident.

## Deacons' Meeting

**Sunday, September 12  
12:15 p.m. — Room 501**



# Financial Report

## Budget Receipts as of August 19, 2021

Budget Goal (33 weeks)	\$	986,286	
Budget Receipts (33 weeks)	\$	873,160	88.53%
Budget Expenditures (33 weeks)	\$	767,346	77.80%

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 Parkway, Wichita Falls, TX 76308 as the address. You can then choose a regular monthly, twice monthly, or weekly schedule.

## Adult Equip Classes

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE BACK!

It's time to make Wednesday nights at Faith a regular part of your family's weekly schedule! The family meal is each week at 5:30 p.m. Youth Midweek begins at 6:15 p.m. Activities for kids of all ages and study options for adults begin at 6:30 p.m. This semester there are four great equip classes for adults including a study on Elijah with Paula Compton, a survey study of theology with Paul Simmons, and multiple stand-alone studies in our One Shots class. The September One Shots will include teaching from Kevin Austin, Hunter Adams, Ted Cope, John Gill, and Jeff Johnson with lots of new faces to follow in the weeks ahead. Come join us and let's Experience God Together on Wednesday nights this fall!

## Bible Drill

Bible Drill begins Sunday, September 12 and is for children grades 4-6. This is a great way for children to learn the books of the Bible and key passages and to memorize scripture. Bible drill meets Sundays from 4:00-5:30 in the Family Life Center. Contact Pam Morath at 940-632-9509 with your questions.

## Sympathy

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

**GLEN & STEVEN WOOD** – brother & uncle

**DUBBY SPEEGLE** – wife, Sheri & daughter, Sarah

**FAMILY & FRIENDS OF DOROTHY SELLS**

## Family Game Night

Sunday, September 12

6:30–8:00 p.m.

in the FLiC

Join us for this time of fellowship and bring your favorite game and snack to share.

## Good News Club

Our Good News Club for early elementary-aged children begins Monday, September 20 after school at Ben Milam Elementary. Khristy Kirk is our new club coordinator and is seeking volunteers to assist with the one-day-a-week club. If you would consider helping, contact Khristy (940-235-9477; [khristy\\_kirk@yahoo.com](mailto:khristy_kirk@yahoo.com)) or Mandy Ratliff ([mandyr@faithwf.com](mailto:mandyr@faithwf.com); 940-692-4220) for more information. Training will be provided as we prepare to share love and the gospel of Jesus Christ with boys, girls and their families.