

IT'S NOT
TOO LATE!

Join One of These Wednesday Night Groups!

Make Wednesday Night a Priority in 2024!

Grief Share, 13 Weeks, Room 125 (Revised & Updated!)

Griefshare is a support group for anyone who has lost a loved one. Each night you will experience three key parts - video presentations from grief recovery experts, discussion and exercises and articles to help you through many daily stresses, untangle your emotions and find comfort. This is an updated version of the workbook and alumni will benefit from the new study. The cost is \$15 and Griefshare is led by Jim McGuire.

Exploring Christianity's 10 Toughest Questions, 10 Weeks, Room 122

This dynamic video-based study answers tough questions about the existence of God, Christianity and Islam, the reliability of the Bible, faith and science and many other issues. Best-selling author Lee Strobel hosts spirited discussions between well-respected Christians, people of other faiths or people with no faith at all on the most important spiritual and social issues. Materials are \$10 and the study will be led by Justin Walton.

Better: A Study of Hebrews (Women), 10 Weeks, Room 123

Ladies enjoy this verse-by-verse study of Hebrews and you will be learning how Christ is the substance of the shadowy truths of the Old Testament records. Written to those tempted to return to the familiar paths of dead ritual, Hebrews calls us to fix our gaze instead on the resurrected Christ as we run the race set before us! It is through Christ we have hope and salvation. He alone is the radiance of the glory of God. In Him alone we have access to God the Father. He alone is better. Materials are \$15 and the study will be led by Adrienne Caveny.

Overcoming Emotions that Destroy, 10 Weeks, Room 124

In this study, you will focus in on one of the most powerful emotions - anger. It comes in many forms but this series will help you identify how you handle your anger and give you practical biblical tools to express anger appropriately and deal with those who express their anger toward you. The materials are \$10 and the study will be led by Trey Smart.

Students

Hey church family,

We are looking forward to having a great start to the new year! Wednesday Night Live continues with service starting at 6:30pm and the Bunker open from 6-8:00pm. Starting Sunday January 21st we will begin Sunday night discipleship with the youth from 5:00-6:30pm in the Bunker. This semester we will be looking at spiritual disciplines and different ways to equip our students to build on their relationship with God. This will be a time of learning in big and small groups with accountability throughout the semester. I am looking forward to a great time this year. Also put on your calendar that United Weekend will be here at FBE and will be March 15-17. More details will follow soon. Thank you for your support in allowing us to invest in our students! If you want to support in other ways reach out to me and we can always use help!

Justin Smart
Student Pastor



<https://www.facebook.com/FirstEastChildren/>
https://twitter.com/FBE_Children

Children & Families

What's happening?

●Power Up is happening on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm. This is for children grades Kindergarten through 5th grade.

●Connection hour starts at 9:00 am on Sundays. I would love to see you there!

●Children's church is for Kindergarten through 3rd graders during service.

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great Christmas.

Power Up is starting back on January 3rd, and Connection Hour starts back on January 7th.

I am excited to start this new year with all of you, and I look forward to seeing you at church!

First Baptist East Church
3302 SE Lee Blvd.
Lawton, OK 73501
580-355-6190

www.firstbaptisteast.com

OUR SERVICES

Sundays

9:00 a.m.: Connection Hour
10:30 a.m.: Worship

Wednesdays

5:00 p.m.: Meal Service
6:00 p.m.: Power Up/Power Up Friends
6:00 p.m.: Adult Discipleship
6:15 p.m.: Adult Choir
6:30 p.m.: Wednesday Live (The Bunker opens at 6 p.m.)

Non-Profit Organ.
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Lawton, Oklahoma,
73501

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Follow us on:



3302 SE Lee Blvd., Lawton, OK 73501

January 3, 2024



***See You On The First
Sunday of the New
Year!***

January 7
9 a.m.: Connection Hour
10:30 a.m.: Worship

From the Pastor

Another year is coming to a close and a new year is opening up before us. I believe this coming year is going to give us a great opportunity to make an impact for the Gospel. I hope you will make yourself available to make that possible.

I also have some exciting news and some sad news. Susie is going to retire the last of January. That is exciting for her as she has served faithfully and deserves a chance to slow down. But it is sad for us because we are losing a good secretary and office manager. Susie has done an outstanding job. We as a staff will miss her greatly.

We are starting to collect resumes for her full-time position. We need someone with computer skills, people skills and organizational skills. If you know of someone you think could handle that please let me know. Do be praying that God will bring the right person for this very important position. Thank you Susie for all your hard work. This has not been a job for her, but a ministry.

Don't forget our prayer visitation on January 7.

—Bro. Doug

PS—Bev & I would like to thank each one of you for the gifts & cards. It is a joy to be your pastor!



Music

ADULT CHOIR HAS RESUMED WEDNESDAYS @ 6:15

Adult Choir has resumed for 2024 with an exciting number of worship opportunities! We'll be leading in worship on Sunday mornings with some great new songs PLUS, leading the Resurrection Celebration service with powerful anthems. We would love to add more singers to the group, so please join us Wednesday night @ 6:15 in the choir room. Nursery and Childcare is provided. Join us!

For Your Information



Giving Electronically Is Easy! ...sign up now to begin giving online!

Giving to our church has never been easier! You can get a REALM account and give online! Visit www.firstbaptisteast.com and click the REALM button, then click give online, then click Sign Up for Realm. If you have any problem, call the church office at 355-6190. Plus, there are other benefits to having an account. Sign up today! If you prefer to use offering envelopes, you can put the offering in the black boxes located in the auditorium or in south foyer!

Looking for a Ministry to Serve to Start 2024?

Are you looking for a ministry that helps young adults? Maybe you would like to explore working with preschoolers in Extended Teaching Care. More volunteers are needed to serve once a month or once every two months. You can choose the age-group you would like to help with!

ETC takes place during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday mornings. This helps both the preschooler enjoy an experience just for them and aids parents in concentrating on worshipping. See Linda Dillingham for more information about how you can serve. Materials are provided.



2023 FBE Goal: \$12,000 Received to Date: \$13,160

Not all of the gifts have been processed at the printing of this newsletter. Thanks for your faithfulness in giving to the spreading of the gospel around the world!

Education

A New Year Brings New Opportunities and Commitments!

As we get into the new year it is a great time to evaluate our commitment to the Lord and what we are doing to further the Kingdom of God! At the top of the list should be a commitment to further and strengthen your relationship with the Lord. This is best done through a daily time spent in His Word and in prayer. But, it also comes with taking advantage of opportunities to be with other Christians on Sundays and Wednesdays. The new year is a great time to get back to church and to begin new habits!

Another way we can enhance our relationship with the Lord is through serving in His church - the bride! It has been my experience through the years that when I am actively engaged in a ministry of some kind the quality of my relationship with Christ is better.

There are lots of opportunities to serve in our church, but one is to serve in Connection Hour. We have needs in preschool, children and youth. Plus, we would like to start a couple (or more) of adult groups that have been without a teacher since the pandemic or before. If this sounds like something you might be interested in, please see the age-group staff member for more information.



Connection Hour is a strategy to connect people to Jesus, His truth, His mission and His community.

For Your Information



Prayer Visitation Sunday, January 7

....Dozens of volunteers needed to make phone calls!

Coming up is our annual prayer visitation to start us off on the right foot in the new year! We will be calling this year and hoping volunteers will text you before calling so you can answer the unfamiliar number. So, if you don't get a phone call it will be because we didn't have enough volunteers or we do not have your accurate phone number in our database.

Callers have been recruited but we are in need of more callers. The training time will take place at 2:30 and then we will call beginning around 3 p.m. Each caller may have eight to 12 calls to make. Cards will be sent to those we do not reach by phone. Your help is needed for this very important effort in our church.

Monthly Recap

Average Attendance (December)		
Connection Hour Average Attendance		280
Monthly Giving (December)	\$	
Monthly Budget Requirements	\$	124,141
Year to Date Budget Receipts	\$	Not avail.
BFHG (December)	\$	Not avail.
BFHG Year to date	\$	Not avail.
Additions (December)		
By Baptism	0	
By Letter	0	
By Watchcare/Statement	2	



Revive at Five! Sunday, January 14, 5 p.m.

Join us for a special night of prayer and worship to cap off our week of prayer to begin the new year! This is a special time and you will not want to miss it as we pray for our church, ourselves and our world!

In Sympathy...

The pastor and church family extend Christian sympathy to Sara Smart on the death of her father; to Hope Lindsey on the death of her sister-in-law; to Hollis Brown on the death of his brother-in-law; to Freddie Shuler on the death of her cousin; and, to Kyle Smith on the death of his grandmother.



Memorial Contributions

A memorial contribution to the Ann Beadles Falls Creek Fund has been made in memory of Maxine Ledford by V. Joyce McCary & Susan McCary.

A Reminder About Social Media

When you see a post on the church social media pages about coming events or Sunday activities, be sure to share it on your page to help us get the word out!

Thank you...

Thank you notes have been received from the family of Perry Woods; from Jim & Elaine McGuire and the family of Maxine Ledford.

Wednesday Night Meals



Adults: \$5 Children: \$3 (no more than \$25 per Household.) Reservations can be made week by week or permanently by texting: Holly Wells at 580-695-2595.

Serving from 5 to 5:45 p.m.
January 10: Baked Chicken Breast
January 17: Spaghetti
January 24: Chicken Strips
January 31: Breakfast for Dinner
February 7: Chicken Fried Steak



MEDICAL OR SAFETY TEAM

We are in need of additional volunteers for both our Medical and our Safety Team. These teams volunteer on a rotating basis. For more info call the numbers below:

MEDICAL: Call Brent Kephart, 580-512-7622
SAFETY: Call Michael Wright, 580-704-5005

January Magazines

Pick up copies of our monthly magazines (Home Life, Parent Life) in the south foyer, the west entry or the church office during office hours.