

Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119 480-982-9120

info@crossroadsbaptistaz.com

January 2026



As we step into a new year, the words of Revelation 21:5 echo with hope and promise:

"Behold, I make all things new."

These are not just words for the future—they are a present reality for those who belong to Christ. In Him, renewal is not a once-a-year event; it is a daily gift.

A Fresh Start in Christ

The world celebrates new beginnings with resolutions and plans, but as believers, our confidence rests not in our own strength but in the transforming power of God. He doesn't simply polish the old; He creates newness from the inside out. Your past failures, regrets, and disappointments do not define you. In Christ, you are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). This January, embrace the truth that God's mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:23). Each sunrise is a reminder that His grace is sufficient for today.

Renewed Mind, Renewed Mission

Mature believers know that spiritual growth is not automatic—meaningful spiritual growth requires intentional surrender and active seeking.

Romans 12:2 calls us to be "transformed by the renewing of your mind." As you begin this year, ask the Lord to

As you journey through January, remember this: newness in Christ is not about striving; *it's about abiding.*

Stay close to Him, and watch how He transforms your heart, your home, and your community. Let this be the year where His promise becomes your reality: "Behold, I make all things new."

God loves you and so do I!!!

Pastor Rick



Happy New Year!



I Grew Up In Arizona

Kevin James Metke · November 24 at 4:06 PM · 🌐

... ✕

Sky Harbor's field was built by Scenic Airways Inc. in 1928-29 and purchased by Acme when the builders left town following the depression. East and west about 5,000 feet were available and north-south a short half mile was usable by dodging the two farms shown in the far left and right center. The hangar was 100 by 100 ft., made of steel and brick with a concrete floor and the tower was two and a half stories tall, containing two small rooms. The concrete taxi and warm up pad extended to the airline terminal which housed the office, radio room, and the weather bureau. The property was purchased by the City of Phoenix in 1935. (PHOTO TAKEN IN 1934) 🌬️🌬️✕✕



Notices/events

If you have something you no longer need or want, an upcoming event, or have a notice to share with the church, feel free to advertise it here to the members of Crossroads. Give your info to Amos (office) for posting. If the info goes in the newsletter, remember that it will be posted online, so do not put in private information.

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

The **DECORATIONS COMMITTEE** needs help and someone to be the chairperson. The committee changes up the sanctuary decorations for seasons and/or special holidays. There isn't a lot of time required and even if you don't have the "gift" you can help take down and put up/out decorations. We especially need our "summer stayers" to join. Men, you are helpful as well!

The **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** needs volunteers to join the committee. With enough volunteers, Sunday mornings can have a rotation again and will have enough people to assist at other events like our business meeting, potlucks, Concerts even on the upcoming National Prayers day on May 7, 2026.

TO SIGN UP/ASK QUESTIONS, SEE DAVID ANYTIME.



MEN'S BREAKFAST !

First SATURDAY of each month at 8:00 AM at the church.



Jan 3, Feb 7, March 7, April 4.

Sign up in the info area. If you can help in the kitchen, please come at 7:00 am to help "Chef" Lafe. Food, Fellowship, and God's Word

For more info Contact Lafe @ 719-342-0431

IMPORTANT DATES

@ First Baptist Church

Jan 15, 2026 @ 7 Pm

Concert : Liberty Quatet

Jan 22, 2026 @ 7 Pm

Concert : The Graguns

Jan 29, 2026 @ 7Pm

Concert : The Allens



First SATURDAY of each month at 8:30 AM at a local eatery.

Jan 3, at Gold Canyon Café
Feb 7, March 7, April 4.

Sign up in the info area. Bring a friend or family member!

For more info Contact .Joanna @

480-560-9964

The CLASSIFIED page

If you have a need for repair work around your home, able to perform handyman or cleaning service, or know of job opportunities, this is the place to be. Give your info to Amos (office) for posting. If the info goes in the newsletter, remember that it will be posted online, so do not put in private information.

Handyman needed

Homes need repair at times and when those small, but needed things breakdown, you need help. We have several members of the church who are experience in many areas. The Property Committee can help with many home issues. Please let the church office know of your needs and the Property team will be notified.

If you are experienced with tools, please let the office know of your talents. We are here to serve our church family in many areas and you can be a blessing to others in need.

**ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT JOANNA**



Have something you want to sell or give away? Take a picture of it , provide a description, and send to the office. We will place it in the newsletter and on the website.

Do you need something for your home? Before you buy it, we can put your need in the newsletter and who knows, someone may be able to help (Tax Return Preparation 2025).

**ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT THE OFFICE**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

If you know of any job openings that would interest our church family or friends of the church, please let the office know.



Our church pantry is available for our church members, their families, and those in our community. We have a variety of canned and packaged goods, cleaning supplies and hygiene items. If you have a need or you know of a neighbor who is struggling, please let the office

What is new ???

If for any reason you are unable to attend a meeting in person, we can provide you with a Microsoft Teams or Zoom meeting link if you let the office know in advance.

If you need prayer, our staff and deacons are always available. Please contact the office if you would like prayer.



Missions News

- News off/from missions supported by Crossroads Baptist Church

Matthew 25:40

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for

Each of you should give
what you have decided in your heart to give,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV



WORD
TO ALL

Crossroads Baptist is an amazing church! Your love for the Lord shows in many ways locally and internationally in 2025. A big thank you!

Genesis Project, Project Help, Women Hope Center and First Baptist Family Resource Center received food, clothing, hotel toiletries, handmade stuffed animals, diapers, cleaning supplies, paper products and much more.

Salvation Army Angel Tree received 15 gift tags completed with almost everything on the child's list.

Project Help's received \$435 in gift cards for ages 12 and up.

Missionary Speakers Todd Miller from International Missions, Steve Huff, Gideons and Jeff Johnson, Good News Global received generous love offerings. Plus, International Missions Annie Armstong and Lotte Moon.

Let's continue to help the needy by donating goods and food, show kindness to the poor, be compassionate to the homeless, remember those in prison, support the causes that help with domestic violence and abortion, show others how to overcome demons...

God bless you greatly for all you do and continue to do for Crossroads!

By Mary Murray



7 **December 25 Average
Monthly Attendance**

Ministries/Other Actual

Sunday Worship.....68
 Sunday School.....2
 Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study.....16

 New Members:.....2
 Ladies' Bible Study.....5
 Ladies' Breakfast Attendance.....9
 Men's Breakfast Attendance.....17
 Visitors.....24

*Jeans needed to make Prayer
Pockets for Operation
Christmas Child Shoeboxes.*

*See Mary Murray with any
questions.*

BUT TO YOU WHO ARE LISTENING
I SAY:
LOVE
 YOUR ENEMIES,
DO GOOD
 TO THOSE WHO HATE YOU,
BLESS
 THOSE WHO CURSE YOU,
PRAY
 FOR THOSE WHO MISTREAT YOU.
 LUKE 6:27-28

Get Involved!

- Sunday Fellowship - coffee & donuts @ 9 am.
- Sunday School @ 9:30 am.
- Worship Service @ 10:45 am.
- Ladies' Bible Study and Life Group
Tuesdays @ 10 am.
- Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting & Bible Study @ 3:00 pm.
- Choir - Wednesday-Practice @ 5 pm
- Ladies' Breakfast - Monthly: First Saturday @ 8:30 am at a local restaurant.
- Men's Breakfast—Monthly: First Saturday @ 8:00 am at the church.
- Connections Saturday - One Saturday each month. Check church calendar.
- Volunteering: The church needs your gifts and talents. See a need? Want to help somehow? Contact the office or the committee chairperson.

Know Doubt weekly devotional - Christmas Memories

Christmas Day 2025 is now history, but you might still be visiting or celebrating into the New Year. What are some of your fondest memories of this recent Christmas? Was it a memorable gift, a dinner, a party, or a family gathering? Were there some things you would rather forget? A speeding ticket, an argument, the turkey getting burned, a gift sweater several sizes too big, or working a shift as a first responder?

Perhaps some of your memories fit in with Americans who responded to a survey of what they planned to do this Christmas.¹ Not surprisingly, more than 97% of those who identified themselves as Christian planned to celebrate Christmas. Even 3 out of every 4 people who said they were not affiliated with any religion, or were of a non-Christian religion, also intended to observe Christmas Day; although no mention was made of how they would celebrate.

Half of all Americans were planning to attend church during the Christmas season, including 21% of those who were religiously unaffiliated. A majority of the unaffiliated were willing to go to a church service if someone they knew invited them.

Among Christians (churched and unchurched) as well as those of non-Christian religions, 53% said they could retell parts of the biblical story of the birth of Jesus, but few (22%) felt they could describe it accurately.

What is the attraction of the unchurched and non-Christian to the Christmas season? Perhaps it is a time to remember “peace on earth and goodwill toward men” (Luke 2:14). All of us are aware of wars and violence, not just in foreign lands, but in our own families and local communities. We all want some kind of peace, whether we define it merely as the absence of hostility, or as an inner calm.

Peace and goodwill certainly abound at Christmas. Cheerful greetings are expressed, even to strangers. Gifts are given and received. Friends or family gather for special meals. Houses and churches are brightly decorated. Worship services feature lovely carols extolling peace and joy.

Imbedded in Christmas is a truth not often mentioned: the “why” of God’s plan (John 3:16). Christmas rightly celebrates the birth, but many churches barely mention the requirements for salvation: Jesus suffered and died for our sins (1 Peter 2:24); and our

confession of Him as Lord and Savior (Romans 10:9-10). The birth narrative is lovely but not challenging, the death of Jesus is uncomfortable but believable; however, the idea of repentance arouses self-denial. Yet Christmas takes us to Easter; and without Easter, Christmas would have little importance.

What Christmas 2025 memories do you have? How many people did you greet with

“Merry Christmas” and how many acts of goodwill did you do joyfully? Were you invited, or did you invite someone, to a Christmas service? Did you hear, or tell someone, the whole biblical story of the birth? To the peace and goodwill of Christmas, did you include the “why”?

It is said that memories last a lifetime. My hope is your Christmas memories will, especially those where you helped someone understand the “why” of Jesus’ birth.

¹ <https://research.lifeway.com/2025/12/11/7-christmas-stats-you-should-know/>

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Keep the SON in your eyes

Rev: Tom



Cold + broke combo: You’re freezing *and* your wallet is on vacation

- January wallet: **“You again?”**
- Bank balance in January: *buffering... buffering... error.*
- January budget: **Income:** hope **Expenses:** everything



The Wisdom message

I had been studying the subject of wisdom in the Bible for several years for my own personal curiosity and had gained a lot spiritually from the exercise. But I struggled with why I was excited about those study times, while others didn't seem all that interested. I even asked a national speaker at a conference I was attending IF anyone nationally was focusing on the subject of wisdom. He looked at me oddly and just said, "No."

In my discouragement, God had me look at the passages in the Bible about wise men. I came across Matt. 23:34, which says, "Therefore, I am sending you prophets and wise men and writers..." I had stumbled on a neglected list of spiritual gifts promised to us from Jesus. Included in this list is wise men. Jesus wants His Church to be full of wise men and women. That was the moment I committed to never being discouraged about my personal call to be wise, and the moment I asked God to help me become a wise man.

Often, I hear God asking me, "What do you really want?" And I respond that I want to be a godly man, of faith and wisdom. Because Jesus wants us all to be wise.

He promises in James 1:5 that if we lack wisdom, we need only to ask for it.

By **your servant, Lafe.**



January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>Start or continue your daily Bible reading plan today! New Year 's Eve</i>	1 New Year's Day	2 10:00 am 1st Finance Committee Meeting	3 8:00 am-Men's Breakfast (Church) 8:30 am Ladies' Breakfast (Gold Cyn Cafe)
4 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 Am- Bible Study 10:45 am- Worship The Lord's Supper	5	6 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study 2nd Finance Committee Meeting	7 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study and 5:00 PM Choir Practice	8 10 Am	9	10 10:00 am Celebration of Life for AL Ferguson
11 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship Speaker: Steve Huff , Gedeon Mission Meeting after service	12	13 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study 12:00 pm Personnel Meeting	14 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study and 5:00 PM Choir Practice	15 7 pm Concert @ First Baptist Church LIBERTY QUATET	16	17
18 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 Am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship	19 Martin Luther King Jr Day	20 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study	21 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study and 5:00 PM Choir Practice	22 7 pm Concert @ First Baptist Church THE CRAGUN'S	23	24
25 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship Speaker Nita Kauff- ma .(Family Re- source Center 4th Quarterly Business Meeting	26	27 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study	28 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study and 5:00 PM Choir Practice	29 7 pm Concert @ First Baptist Church THE ALLENS	30	31 10 :00 Am The Wedding Vow Renewal
<i>Catch up or get ahead in your Bible reading plan.</i>			<p><i>"Be strong and of a good courage... for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."</i></p> <p>Joshua 1:9 (KJV)</p>			

Crossroads **Baptist Church** **Great Commission Church**

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Church Office: 480-982-9120

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Email: info@CrossroadsBaptistAZ.com

Website: <https://www.crossroadsbaptistaz.com/>

Pastor: Rick Basch

Deacons

Bob Allen, Earl McDonald, Hector Palma, Mike Tacker, Robert Wisner



MATTHEW 28:18-20
WIN SOULS. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Valley Rim Southern Baptist Association

<https://www.valleyrimbsba.org/>

AZ Southern Baptist Convention

<https://azsbc.org/>

Southern Baptist Convention

<http://www.sbc.net/>

