

Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

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April 2026



Some thoughts on Change.

Spring is exciting. Every day seems to bring new flowers, new growth and new aromas. The slog through winter disappears into a memory as warmer temperatures invite us to step out into new adventures.

The change from Winter to Spring sounds good when you understand the seasonal process and the seasonal joys. But what if you were facing a new 'life season'? What if it was a season that you didn't expect or one that came sooner than you expected? What if you weren't sure how to navigate the changes? How do you chart a path toward an uncertain destination — especially when you are not sure you can make it through, the day?

At such times we need a guide. Ideally, we find a guide who knows the way, knows our limitations and has ample supplies for the journey.

As Christians our guide is the Word. Meaning the Word (as in scripture), and the Word (as in the ascended Son of God).

Once we have found our guide the rest of our journey requires us to “Stay in Step” with the Lord and follow the “Light on the Path”.

1/ The Light We Need for the Path We Have

One of the most comforting promises in Scripture is also one of the most humbling:

**“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”
— Psalm 119:105**

A lamp for the feet is not a floodlight for the future. God gives enough light for the next step, not the next decade. He leads His people moment by moment, season by season, sometimes through long stretches where the way ahead seems dim, uncertain, or impossibly slow. Yet the testimony of God’s people across the centuries is the same: the Lord always makes a way to fulfill His will.

We often want God to show us the whole map. He prefers to show us the next stone in the path. We want clarity; He wants trust. We want speed. He wants faithfulness. And in His kindness, He gives us stories—real lives—to remind us that His leading is never late, never wasted, and never without purpose.

Few lives illustrate this better than the life of Adoniram Judson, the first American Baptist missionary to Burma (modern-day Myanmar). His story is not a tale of quick success or easy progress. It is the story of a man who learned to walk by the light God gave—sometimes a flicker, sometimes a glow, sometimes only enough to keep moving forward.

And yet, through every season, God made a way.

**2/ Learning from the Example of Adoniram Judson:
When the Path Is Long and the Light Seems Dim.**

When Judson first sensed the Lord calling him to foreign missions, he had no idea where that path would lead. He only knew the next step: obey. That obedience cost him dearly. He left his home, his family, and the familiar comforts of New England. He married Ann, fearing that the mission field could take her life. And still, he followed the light he had.

The journey to Burma took months. The work there took years before he saw a single convert. The language was difficult, the climate harsh, and the spiritual soil seemed unbreakable. Many would have turned back. Judson kept walking.

At one point, after years of labor, he wrote in his journal:

“The future is as bright as the promises of God.”

That was not the voice of a man who saw the whole road. It was the voice of a man who trusted the One holding the lamp.

Then came the darkest season. Judson was imprisoned during the Anglo-Burmese War, chained, starved, and tortured. His beloved Ann died shortly after his release. His infant daughter soon followed. Judson entered a period of deep grief, even digging his own grave as a reminder of life’s brevity.

And yet—even then—the Lord did not abandon him. The light did not go out. It was faint, but it was real. In time, Judson rose again to the work, translating Scripture, preaching Christ, and planting churches. He lived long enough to see the first Burmese believers stand firm in their faith, even under persecution.

By the time of his death, Judson had translated the entire Bible into Burmese, established enduring churches, and laid the foundation for a movement that continues to this day. Today, millions of Burmese Christians trace their spiritual heritage to the seeds he planted.

But none of that was visible to him at the beginning. Or even in the middle. He simply followed the light God gave.

3/ Walking in the Light God Gives Today

Judson's life reminds us that God's guidance is rarely a straight line, but it is always a faithful one. The Lord does not promise us a clear view of the whole journey. He promises His presence. He promises His Word. He promises that He will finish what He begins.

And He promises that His will cannot be thwarted—not by hardship, not by delay, not by our weakness, and not by the darkness around us.

For us, the path may be a season of waiting, a difficult decision, a ministry challenge, or a burden we carry quietly. It may be a calling we don't yet understand or a direction that feels uncertain. But the same Lord who guided Judson guides us still.

When the path is short, He gives light for the next step.

When the path is long, He gives strength for the journey.

When the path is dark, He gives the promise of His presence.

When the path is confusing, He gives wisdom through His Word.

When the path is costly, He gives grace to endure.



**And always—always—He makes a way to fulfill His will.
So let us walk forward with confidence, not because
we see everything clearly, but because He does. Let us
trust the lamp He places at our feet. Let us follow the
Savior who walks ahead of us, beside us, and within us.**

May our prayer be the same as Judson's:

**“Lord, lead me as far as the light of Your Word shows—
and when I need more light, give it.”**

And may our testimony, like his, be this:

The future is as bright as the promises of God

God loves you and so do I!!!

Pastor Rick



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

A special thank you for the craft/bake sale:

- To the Mission and Hospitality team for your input and devotion.
- To Pastor, Amos, Joanna and Jane for everything they did to help make this possible.
- To Lafe, Earl, Joanna, Lisa and Dick for setting up the tables.
- To the 13 crafters and 11 bakers, your love for Jesus and dedication to people in need were shown with your creative crafts or delicious baked goods. I am so thankful for all you did to make this happen.
- To Chris Ruble, Ann Wisner and Sue Wells for helping me organize and price. Your prayers, friendship and encouragement meant a lot.
- To Caroline Thackanko, for offering to be my assistant. I sure needed and appreciated you.
- To Sue Wells and Linda Fox, for being our cashiers.
- To Lisa Dallacosta, for taking pictures and helping me with whatever I needed.
- To those that purchased or gave a free will offering, your generosity will never be forgotten. We received \$800 as of March 17.

God bless you greatly for all you do for local missions!

From Mary M.





The Wisdom message

It is often missed as we discuss the doctrine of the Trinity that Jewish Christians came gradually to understand that Jesus was indeed part of the Godhead. One of the important steps for the Jewish Christians was coming to the understanding that Jesus is personified wisdom. Jesus became to them the very wisdom of God.

Luke 11:49 quotes the wisdom of God. Luke, in quoting Jesus, literally calls Jesus the Wisdom of God. I Cor. 1:24 says that Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. Luke 2:40 tells us that Jesus grew in strength and was filled with the wisdom and grace of God. Isaiah 11:2 had predicted that the Spirit of wisdom and understanding would rest upon Jesus (the branch from Jesse, David's father).

With the Jewish Christians connecting Jesus directly to wisdom, they were closer to understanding that Jesus was a deity or divine. Nothing is closer to God, in the Jewish mindset, than wisdom. Jesus being the Wisdom of God placed Him in the highest Christology. The momentum of this understanding about Jesus led the earliest Christians (who were Jewish) to conclude that Jesus was indeed God—alongside God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

By your servant, Lafe M.





BULLETIN BOARD

March 2026 Average Monthly Attendance

Sunday Worship 68
Sunday School 29
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 22

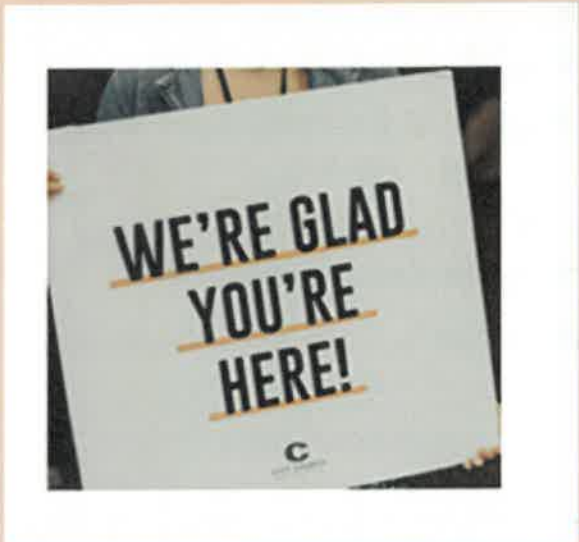
New Members: 3
Ladies' Bible Study 6
Ladies' Breakfast Attendance 5
Men's Breakfast Attendance.....15
Visitors 4

Ministries/Other Actual



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- No 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 quarter. 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.



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 volunteers. 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.

Important

MEN'S BREAKFAST!



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

April 11., May 2, June 6

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

April 4th Decoration Committee Meeting @ 10:am

April 5th Easter Brunch

April 8th No Bible Study that Wednesday

April 9th, EASTER BRUNCH @ 9 AM

April 11th, Men's and Ladies Breakfast

April 14th @ 12 AM Security Committee Meeting

April 15th Tax Season Officially closes@11:59 Pm

April 25th @ 9 Am WORKDAY

April 26th 1st Quarter Business Committee



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

April 11 at Gold Canyon Café May 2, June 6,

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 Bulletin and who knows, someone may be able to help .

(Tax Return Prep, Landscaping, Home cleaning, etc).

**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 ???

⇒ We can provide you a link to attend Virtually a meeting with a Microsoft Teams or Zoom meeting link if you let the office know in advance.

⇒ **If you arrive late, please press the bell at the front door—The Deacon will let you in. Thank you!**

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





My Passion for Passion Flowers

While we lived in Burlington, Colorado, we received a free seed packet of an exotic flower called the "Passion flower". I planted it and for two years nothing bloomed except a vine. I was ready to chop it down because I thought it was just a vine and nothing produced. Then one day these beautiful flowers appeared. I then realized that God didn't want me to chop it down because there was a significant meaning behind this flower that related to Jesus.

I believe when you plant seeds it sows goodness, generosity, and faith. It should be used to reap positive spiritual and physical rewards to bless others. I feel if you bless others, you will be blessed. I know because I am an example of that.

Here is what I found:

- The passionflower symbolizes the Passion of Christ, representing His suffering and sacrifice.
- Its unique structure reflects the elements of the crucifixion: the five petals symbolize the five wounds of Jesus.
- The tendrils of the flower represent the whips used during His scourging.
- The three stigmas symbolize the three nails used to crucify Him.
- The circular corona resembles the crown of thorns placed on Jesus' head.

The flower blooms in a way that signifies hope and resurrection, mirroring the resurrection of Christ.

Blessed Resurrection Day!

From Mary M.

The Tale of Jake and the “I’ll Do It Tomorrow” Tax Plan

Jake was a professional procrastinator. Not officially, of course—but but if there were a world championship, he’d probably win gold.

When tax season rolled around, everyone was talking about Tax Day, but Jake just waved it off.

“Plenty of time,” he said on April 1st.

“Still got weeks,” he said on April 10th.

“Okay... I’ll do it tonight,” he said on April 14th.

That night? He ordered pizza and started watching a new show.

At 11:30 PM on April 15th, Jake suddenly jumped up.

“My taxes!!”

He rushed to his laptop, opened 27 tabs, forgot his password twice, and somehow ended up watching a video titled “How to Stay Calm Under Pressure.”

By the time he finally logged in...

🕒 11:59 PM

A good recommendation is to request an extension from the Internal Revenue Service early so you have extra time to file your tax return without stress or penalties.

From Amos M.



April is that special time when people remember that **Jesus Christ** Our Savior rose from the dead on **Easter**... and somehow we celebrate it with chocolate eggs and bunnies—proof that joy and resurrection can come in *very sweet* packages



TEN WAYS TO LOVE

1. Listen without interrupting. (Proverbs 18:13)
2. Speak without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. Give without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. Pray without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. Answer without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. Share without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. Enjoy without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. Trust without wavering. (I Corinthians 13:7)
9. Forgive without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. Promise without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)

PRAYER FOCUS

Scripture: Luke 5:16 “But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.”

Thoughts: Many times. Repeatedly. Frequently. If the Savior of the world, as busy as he was, as important as his ‘to-do’ list was, ‘often’ withdrew and prayed, what excuse do we have for not doing the same? Is your prayer life frequent? Do you repeatedly withdraw from your busy-ness to talk to God? Many times, maybe not. Follow the example of the God/Man who seemed least likely to need prayer.

Prayer: Dearest Heavenly Father, I can’t even imagine how my life would change if I spent time in prayer with you more often. Forgive me for falling asleep while praying, rushing or skipping a “good morning” to you when I rise. Forgive me that many prayers are focused on me – not on you. I crave the peace and strength only you can give. I need the conversation and I need to listen to you. Help me to make frequent stops at your feet. AMEN

April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	2	3	4 <u>Decorations Committee Meeting @ 10:00 am</u>
5 9 00 Am- <u>Easter Brunch</u> Fellowship 9:30 Am- Bible Study 10:45 am- Worship 	6	7 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study	8 3:00 PM NO Prayer Meet- ing & Bible Study	9	10	11 Men's and Ladies Breakfast
12 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am Worship	13	14 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study <u>Security Committee Meeting @ 12:00 am</u>	15 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	16	17	18
19 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 Am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship	20	21 10:00 Am- Ladies Bible Study	22 3:00 PM Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	23	24	25 10 00 Am <u>Church Workday @ Church</u>
26 9 00 Am- Fellowship 9:30 Am- Bible Study 10:45 am- Worship After church <u>Business Committee Meeting</u>	27	28	29	30	<i>Catch up or get ahead in your Bible reading plan.</i>	

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

Isaiah 43:19

† 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

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