

# Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

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

**SEPTEMBER 2024**



## The Power of Confession and Prayer

I love it when people refer to Crossroads as a loving and praying church! It is the highest praise because it clearly testifies that we are God focused and relationship-oriented people. I might add that it is indicative of obedient people.

James 5:16 says, “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

Here we see something of the transformative power of confession and prayer in the life of a believer. Let’s explore three key points from this verse.

**1. Confession Brings Healing:** Confession is more than admitting our wrongs; it’s a step towards healing. When we confess our sins to one another, we break the chains of secrecy and guilt. This openness fosters a supportive community where healing can begin. As Proverbs 28:13 says, “Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.”

**2. Prayer Strengthens Relationships:** Praying for each other builds a bond of unity and love within the church. It shifts our focus from ourselves to the needs of others, fostering empathy and compassion. This mutual intercession strengthens our relationships and creates a supportive spiritual family.

**3. Righteous Prayer is Powerful:** The prayer of a righteous person is not just a ritual; it is powerful and effective. When we live in alignment with God’s will, our prayers carry weight. They can bring about change, healing, and miracles. As 1 John 5:14-15 reminds us, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

### ✝ Our Faith in Action ✝

Crossroads routinely prays for our sick and for those who are lost and need the light of salvation.

Recently, we have incorporated “prayer cards” into our program. A prayer card is a confirming card that we send to the family member who asked us to pray for a loved one needing salvation. Each Wednesday during the prayer and Bible study, our prayer warriors take a few names to pray for. They then fill out the prayer cards and give them to the Crossroads office who then send them to the requester for encouragement. In this way, families are being notified that we have been faithful to their trust and their prayer request is not forgotten.

We have received several calls from families telling us that our faithfulness in prayer has been inspirational and encourages their hearts.

If you would participate in this ministry, the cards are on a back table in the information area. Pray for the named person(s) on the card, fill out the card, and put them in the outgoing box.

**God loves you and so do I! Pastor Rick**

**Serve your Brothers and Sisters:  
We Need Meals!**

**In order to continue to help our members in need,  
we need meals that serve two to three people to put  
in the church freezer.**

Help with a meal or two for someone that is ill or in need.  
Bring homemade or healthy frozen meals from the store to the  
office during the week or before church to be frozen.

Let us know who needs help so we can arrange for delivery.

Show someone our love by ministering to  
them in the name of Jesus through your church.

**Hebrews 13:16 ~ "And do not forget to do good and to  
share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."**



FIDO BONA ESQ  
Pawfirm Owner

**Did your human  
break a treat in half  
and try to pass it off  
as a whole treat?**

**You may be entitled  
to compensation.**

Our attorneys have seven times  
the experience chasing down  
treats owed.  
Paw us today to schedule a  
consultation

**HOUND,  
WOLFE  
& CHASE**

Attorneys at Paw



**Don't put your  
Pastor  
on a pedestal where he  
can be knocked off.**



**Put your Pastor on a  
Prayer List where he  
can be lifted up**

**A lot of folks believe  
the finest day for  
mankind was when a  
man set foot on the  
moon, but my friend  
the real finest day for  
mankind was when  
Jesus stepped out of  
the tomb.**

# By Members For Members

## Free/For Sale/Help Wanted/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 ad to Beth (office) for posting. If the ad goes in the newsletter, remember that it will be posted online, so do not put in too much personal information.

Beth is willing to help you as needed to get your ad ready for publishing.

### Missions Giving Drives

- ♥ AZ (Baptist) Mission Offering 8/25 thru 9/22.
- ♥ Diapers and Wipes Drive for 1st Baptist Church program. 8/25 thru 9/30.



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**\*\*\*OCTOBER 12\*\*\***  
Watch for more info or contact Mary/Terry.



### Pinal County Domestic Violence Awareness 5k Trail Walk & Family Day

Saturday  
October 12th, 2024  
7:00 am to 11:00 am

This event is FREE to attend  
Register here:

Prospector Park  
3015 N. Idaho Rd  
Apache Junction, AZ 85119



OPTIONAL: Make a \$30 donation, and get a swag bag!



in partnership with: FAITH & BLUE

**Social Saturday**  
**September 21, 12–3:30pm**  
Open to anyone—even if you don't know how to paint!



Submissions for the newsletter. Submit to Beth or Pastor Rick by email or place in the "Office" mailbox just outside the hall office door.



Please plan to join us on October 11-14 for the **2024 NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND!**

For the latest news and updates, visit [faithandblue.org](http://faithandblue.org) or call 404-605-7000.



## August Average Monthly Attendance

Sunday Worship..... 50  
 Sunday School..... 23  
 Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study..... 15  
**Ladies' Bible Study/Life Group.....5/5**

## Ministries/Other Actual

**Ladies' Breakfast Attendance** ..... 8  
 Social Saturday:..... 7  
 New Members: ..... 4  
 Visitors:..... 7



**\*\*If you or someone you know needs prayer immediately, contact the office or a prayer chain member.**

**\*\*To add to our weekly prayer list, please get the info to the office by noon on Wednesday for the 3pm prayer meeting.**

If you or someone else would like a visit by a member, please contact the office, a visitation team member, or a deacon for assistance. Visits can include taking a meal, hospital visits, communion with a house-bound member, or even just a social or prayer visit to **lift someone's spirits.**

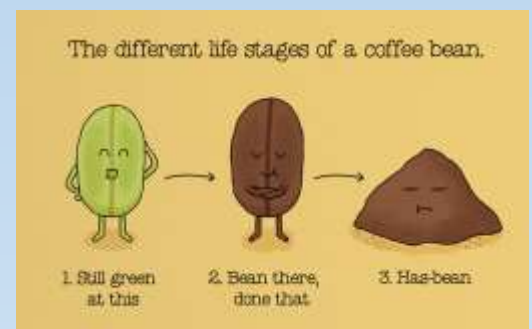
### Get Involved!

- **Sunday Fellowship** - coffee & donuts @ 9 am.
- **Sunday School** @ 9:30 am.
- **Worship Service** @ 10:45 am.
- **Ladies' Bible Study and Life Group** Tuesdays @ 10am & 11:15am respectively.
- **Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting & Bible Study** @ 3:00 pm.
- **Ladies' Breakfast—Monthly:** third Friday @ 8:30 am at a local restaurant.
- **Volunteering Your Time:** The church needs your gifts and talents. See a need? Want to help somehow?  
 Contact the office or the appropriate committee chairperson.

A first-grade teacher gave each child in her class the first half of an old proverb, and asked them to write the rest. Here are the results:

- Don't bite the hand that ... Look dirty.
- It's always darkest before ... Daylight Savings Time.
- You can't teach an old dog new ... Math
- Strike while the ... Bug is Close.
- Better safe than ... Punch a 5th grader.
- If you lie down with the dogs, you'll ... Stink in the morning.
- A penny saved is ... Not Much.
- Where there's smoke, there's ... Pollution
- The pen is mightier than the ... Pigs.
- A miss is as good as a ... Mr.
- Happy the bride who ... Gets All the Presents!
- An idle mind is ... The Best Way to Relax
- Love all, trust ... Me.

*Submitted by Carol B.*



# Crossing Fingers: What Does It Mean and How Did it Start?

Excerpts from <https://symbolsage.com/crossing-fingers-origins/>

By Dani Rhys, September 23, 2022



Most people cross their fingers when they need luck, either for themselves or for someone else. The same urge can also be felt when someone needs protection or even divine intervention.

Occasionally, even children will cross their fingers behind their backs in an attempt to invalidate a promise or to tell a white lie.

It's clear that crossing your fingers has a couple of meanings. It's a gesture that invites luck, but it's also a gesture that demonstrates a lie. So where did this practice originate from and why do we still do it?



## The Meaning of Crossing Fingers

There are two primary theories on how crossing fingers came to be a symbol of good luck.



### Links to Christianity

The first can be traced to pagan times in Western Europe where the cross was highly accepted as a **symbol of unity**. It was also believed that good spirits lived at the cross's intersection. It is at this intersection where a person must anchor his or her wishes until they come true.

The practice of wishing upon a cross spread across the early European cultures during pre-Christian times. This is also similar to the practice of saying *touch wood* or knocking on wood to negate bad luck – which is also associated with the cross.

As time evolved, well-wishing individuals began crossing their index fingers over the index finger of the person asking for a wish to come true. In this case, two fingers make a cross; the one asking for a wish and the one supporting and empathizing.

Crossing fingers over centuries became much simpler. A person could now make his or her wish by merely crossing his or her index and middle fingers to make an "X".

The cross could already be made without requiring a supporter. Friends and family, however, can still commiserate by crossing their own fingers or at the very least saying "Keep your fingers crossed."

### Early Christianity

Other explanations of origin can be found during the early Christian era. In those times, Christians crossed their fingers in order to invoke the powers associated with the Christian cross.

As Christians were persecuted by Romans in the early Church, the crossed fingers and the Ichthys (fish) came to symbolize assembly for worship services or a way to recognize fellow Christians and interact safely.

### To Ward Off Bad Luck

Some accounts suggest that people crossed their fingers during 16th century England to ward off evil spirits. People also crossed their fingers if someone sneezed or coughed. Like the practice of saying *bless you* when someone sneezed, this may have been because people would worry about the health of the person who had sneezed and wished God's mercy and blessings on them.

### Why Do We Cross Our Fingers When Lying?

Stories on how crossing fingers when lying came to be are mixed.

Some say that this gesture of crossing fingers when lying may have come from Christianity. This is because one of the Ten Commandments says do not lie or more accurately "do not testify falsely against your neighbor."

Despite breaking one of God's commandments, Christians are believed to have made the cross symbol using their fingers in order to keep God's wrath at bay.

As early Christians were persecuted, they would also cross their fingers when lying about their faith, as a way to ask God for protection and forgiveness.

"FOR WHOEVER WANTS TO SAVE HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT,  
BUT WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR ME WILL SAVE IT."

LUKE 9:24

## CROSSROADS' MEMBER'S MINISTRIES

Bill and Chris R. started a new ministry at home in Iowa to give away clothes, Bibles, etc. It is named "God's Attic." All items are free. They want to use this an opportunity to share the gospel. Below are 'before' photos of the set up at their first one on August 17.



Bill and Chris are thrilled that God's Attic was a HUGE success. They received thank you's, hugs, grateful tears, and donations for another in September. They say, "Thank you!!!! Serving in this capacity is beyond words that I can express!!"

Here is a photo of all that was left!



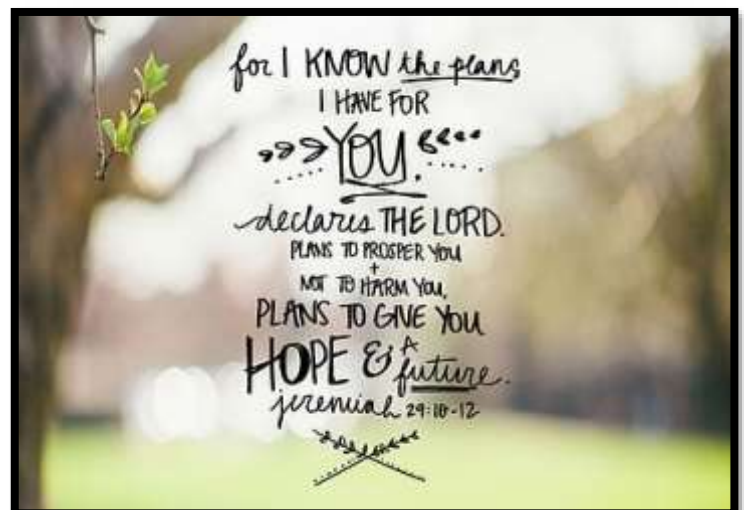
## HELPFUL TIPS:

- ◆ Keeping tools from rusting: Tuck a piece of charcoal or chalk into your toolbox. It will absorb moisture and keep tools from rusting.
- ◆ Use an orphaned sock by slipping a flashlight into it and placing it in your car's glove box. There will be no rattling noise.
- ◆ Avoid cutting yourself when slicing vegetables by getting someone else to hold the vegetables while you chop.
- ◆ A mouse trap placed on top of your alarm clock will prevent you from rolling over and going back to sleep after you hit the snooze button.
- ◆ If you have a bad cough, take a large dose of laxatives. Then you'll be afraid to cough.
- ◆ You only need two tools in life—WD-40 and Duct tape. If it doesn't move and should, use the WED-40. If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.
- ◆ If you can't fix it with a hammer, you've got an electrical problem.

## BEST POEM IN THE WORLD

I was shocked, confused, bewildered  
As I entered Heaven's door,  
Not by the beauty of it all,  
Nor the lights or its decor.  
But it was the folks in Heaven  
Who made me sputter and gasp—  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the trash.  
There stood the kid from seventh grade  
Who swiped my lunch money twice.  
Next to him was my old neighbor  
Who never said anything nice.  
Herb, who I always thought  
Was rotting away in hell,  
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,  
Looking incredibly well.  
I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?  
I would love to hear Your take.  
How'd all these sinners get up here?  
God must've made a mistake.  
'And why is everyone so quiet,  
So somber - give me a clue.'  
'Hush, child,' He said, 'they're all in  
shock.  
No one thought they'd be seeing you.'

Every saint has a PAST...  
Every sinner has a FUTURE!





# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship Baptism The Lord's Supper	2 HOLIDAY Office Closed: <i>Start or continue your daily Bible reading plan today!</i> <i>The read-through-the-Bible-in-a-year plan is in the January</i>	3 No Ladies Bible Study/Life Group  ◆AZ (Baptist) "CONNECT Mission Offering thru 22nd.	4 No-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	5 No Choir Practice  ◆Diaper & Wipes Drive thru 29th.	6	7
8 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship	9 Start of Project Help Back-to-School Drive  ◆AZ (Baptist) "CONNECT Mission Offering thru 22nd.	10 No Ladies Bible Study/Life Group	11 3:00pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	12 No Choir Practice  ◆Diaper & Wipes Drive thru 29th.	13 Office Closed: Summer Friday	14
15 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship	16	17 No Ladies Bible Study/Life Group	18 10:30 am-Personnel Meeting	19 No Choir Practice	20 8:30 am-Ladies' Breakfast @ iHop	21 12-3:30-Social Saturday Paint Class
	◆AZ (Baptist) "CONNECT Mission Offering thru 22nd.			◆Diaper & Wipes Drive thru 29th.		
22 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship •After Church: Missions Comm Meeting •End of AZ (Baptist) "CONNECT" Mission Offering	23	24 No Ladies Bible Study/Life Group  ◆Diaper & Wipes Drive thru 29th.	25 3:00 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	26 No Choir Practice	27 Office Closed: Summer Friday	28
29 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship  •End of Diaper & Wipes Drive	30					<i>Catch up or get ahead in your Bible reading plan.</i>

*"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven."*  
 Matthew 6:10 (ESV)

# † 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](mailto:info@CrossroadsBaptistAZ.com)

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

Pastor: Rick Basch

## Deacons

Bob Allen, Wes Ehlers, 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/>

