

Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

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

OCTOBER 2023



Flourishing Like Olive Trees in God's House

Deacon Wes Ehlers reminded us that on Sept 23rd we arrived at the Autumn Equinox.

Equinox means equal night. The equinoxes (Vernal and Autumnal) are when the sun lands equally on both hemispheres, and they mark the start of spring and autumn. Solstices, when the earth sees its strongest tilt toward or away from the sun, kicks off summer and winter.

I like the changing of the seasons. Each season brings something different and something refreshing. Just like in our lives, there will be changes and new seasons. Generally, the trees bring us the first sign of change.

Our lives can be compared to various types of trees. Each tree signifies a unique journey and, today, we draw inspiration from the olive tree as described in Psalm 52:8-9:

"But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of God; I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever. For what you have done I will always praise you in the presence of your faithful people. And I will hope in your name, for your name is good."

Much like the resilient olive tree we, as faithful servants of God, have the potential to flourish and grow within the walls of His house. Let us delve into the essence of this scripture and extract valuable insights for our spiritual growth:

1. Trust in God's Unfailing Love: Just as the olive tree's roots dig deep for nourishment, we too should anchor our trust in God's unwavering love. Through every storm, His love sustains us. Deep roots sustain big trees!
2. Love is the oil that gets extracted from the fruit of His Presence. Just as olives are harvested to produce oil that brings light, our love can illuminate the lives of those around us. Let us remember to bring glory to God through loving and serving our fellow believers. Let them receive light by our light.

Imagine our church as a garden of flourishing olive trees, each one bearing the fruit of faith, hope, and love. Together, we can inspire spiritual growth and encourage one another in our walk with the Lord.

As a complementary scripture, consider:

1 Corinthians 3:6: "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow."

There is a place for all of us in God's house. May we continue to grow and flourish in God's house, nurturing our faith and sharing His love with one another.

Please know that God Loves you and so do !!!!

Pastor Rick

NOTICES & EVENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

NEW CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS!

To the Crossroads Baptist Congregation:

Please note: Our church now has a new email address.

Please add it to your contacts for the church.

It is now:

Info@CrossroadsBaptistAZ.com

For a while, emails to the old yahoo.com address will be forwarded to the new email address.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

NEW SANCTUARY SECURITY SYSTEM

To the Crossroads Baptist Congregation:

Please note: Due to the break-in and vandalism of the kitchen and sanctuary on July 22, we had an alarm system installed the first week of August.

Any member with a key to the sanctuary and/or kitchen, needs to **register** as a user **OR** return the key to the office if you don't want to use the alarm system.

Be aware: Entering the sanctuary without a passcode when the alarm is armed, will set off a very loud alarm that also goes to the security company and police.
(Yikes!)

Thank you for your cooperation!
You are loved by God and your church staff!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

NEW! CHURCH APP FOR PHONES AND OPTION FOR ONLINE GIVING

Our church now has a new phone app and is about to launch an updated website!

Both the app and the current website have the new online giving option.

When giving online, there is a fee (a percentage) charged as well. You can choose to pay the fee or not. If you do, the church receives your full gift and the fee you paid is deemed tax deductible for you. If you choose not to pay the fee, the fee is taken out of your gift amount prior to deposit to the church's bank account.

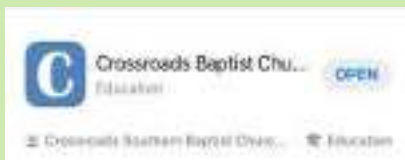
You will find the Crossroads Baptist Church app in the Google Play Store and in the Apple App Store for both Android and iPhone.

****Search for Crossroads Baptist Church AZ**

Then download the app to your phone.**

Look for the blue square with a white 'C' in the middle.

(This picture below is from the Apple Store)



For assistance, please feel free to call the office to schedule an in-person training.



The new Ladies Life Group will be held on **Tuesdays at 11:15am**. It **starts on October 3**. Initially we will meet weekly and reevaluate times and dates once established. Join us!



October 20 Aspire Ladies Event.

Sign up in the info area. We will be carpooling and car groups can choose to have dinner before the event. Contacts: Kathy Brown, Beth Silvers

Of Casseroles and Cupboards

The church freezer is filling with casseroles and our cupboards (pantry) are filling!

Do you know someone that needs a bit of help? Someone that is ill and a visit with a meal and/or some groceries would show them God's love? You can minister to them in the name of Jesus through your church. Come by the church during office hours or call to set up another time.



Upcoming **Social Saturdays!**

12:30-3:00 pm. Open to ladies and gents! Mark your calendar and everyone come

have fun! Signup in the info area! Mark your calendars so you don't miss one!

October 21, November 18, December 16

Scriptures for the Month

October

Fear Not!

- Day 1: 2 Tim 1:7
- Day 2: 1 John. 4:18
- Day 3: Psalm 23:4
- Day 4: Joshua 1:9
- Day 5: Isaiah 41:10
- Day 6: Isaiah 35:4
- Day 7: Isaiah 43:1
- Day 8: Jeremiah 1:8
- Day 9: Psalm 34:4
- Day 10: Psalm 27:1
- Day 11: Psalm 118:6
- Day 12: 1 Peter 3:14
- Day 13: Luke 12:32
- Day 14: Genesis 15:1
- Day 15: Psalm 56:3
- Day 16: Proverbs 12:25
- Day 17: Psalm 112:7
- Day 18: Proverbs 3:24
- Day 19: John 14:27
- Day 20: Jeremiah 17:8
- Day 21: Luke 12:22
- Day 22: Philippians 4:6
- Day 23: Deuteronomy 3:22
- Day 24: Isaiah 12:2
- Day 25: Chronicles 20:15
- Day 26: 2 Chronicles 20:17
- Day 27: Exodus 14:13-14
- Day 28: Psalm 112:8
- Day 29: Deuteronomy 1:21
- Day 30: Acts 18:9
- Day 31: 1 Peter 5:7

*"With the power of God
within us, we need never
fear the powers around us."*

Woodrow Kroll

susandavis.com

2023 Monthly Bible Reading Plan

Start Now! It's never too late!

TURNING POINT'S

365 - DAY

BIBLE READING PLAN



One of the best ways to know God is to become acquainted with the full counsel of His written Word. This reading plan will guide you through all 66 books of the Bible in the coming year.

OCTOBER

1 Malachi 1 - 4	11 Matthew 25 - 26	21 Luke 1 - 2
2 Matthew 1 - 4	12 Matthew 27 - 28	22 Luke 3 - 4
3 Matthew 5 - 6	13 Mark 1 - 3	23 Luke 5 - 6
4 Matthew 7 - 9	14 Mark 4 - 5	24 Luke 7 - 8
5 Matthew 10 - 11	15 Mark 6 - 7	25 Luke 9 - 10
6 Matthew 12 - 13	16 Mark 8 - 9	26 Luke 11 - 12
7 Matthew 14 - 17	17 Mark 10 - 11	27 Luke 13 - 15
8 Matthew 18 - 20	18 Mark 12 - 13	28 Luke 16 - 18
9 Matthew 21 - 22	19 Mark 14	29 Luke 19 - 20
10 Matthew 23 - 24	20 Mark 15 - 16	30 Luke 21 - 22
		31 Luke 23 - 24



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 me.’

This summer, the Missions Committee has been getting ready for action! They have been meeting with local missions to reintroduce our church and put some faces to the funding we send. Also, they wanted to determine what these front-line local missions need most and how we can help them meet their goals for the community they serve—which is our community as well. The Committee wants them to know that Crossroads is here to help and to know we do it from our love of Jesus.

A little Consideration, a little Thought for Others, makes all the difference. (A.A. Milne)



Current Missions Focus through October 15

What You Can Do Now.

The missions committee is collecting very-needed items for local missions Hope Women’s Center, Project Help, and The Genesis Project.

Please bring in paper products like **paper towels and toilet paper**, as well as **bath towels and socks**. for **through October 15**.

There will be a collection area near the media booth in the west-side alcove. If you are unable to **shop for these items**, you can **make a check out to Crossroads Baptist Church and write ‘October Mission Focus’ in the memo area**. Place it in the offering plate or bring it to the church office. We will make sure the missions get the donations.

Thank you for your heart to help those less fortunate.

Missions Committee Meeting

Get ready to rumble!

Put on your thinking and planning caps! The Next Missions meeting is planned for **October 16 at 11am** in the conference room. Committee Members and anyone else interested in helping please show up; find out how you can help according to your abilities.

Missions Committee: George Dodge, Wes Ehlers, Lora Kimsey, Judy Mittlestaedt, Linda Moody, Hector Palma
(Your name could be here too!)



Sep Average
Monthly Attendance

Actual Attendance

Sunday Worship:63
Sunday School:35
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study: 16
Ladies' Bible Study:.....5

Ladies' Breakfast:5



If you would like to have, or know of a church member who would like, a visit &/or the

Lord's Supper taken to them, contact the office, Lynne Basch, or one of the deacons.



If you or someone you know needs prayer immediately, contact our Prayer Chain Chair, April Inman.

Need a Handyman/ Painter?

The church has been utilizing Richard Elizondo for two years for many projects inside and outside of the church (our sanctuary is one of them). A few members have also hired him for things at their homes.

Richard is dependable and honest. His fees are reasonable.

Reach him at 480-255-4698

- **Sunday Fellowship** - coffee & donuts 9:00 am.
- **Sunday School** at 9:30 am.
- **Worship Service** at 10:45 am.
- **Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study** at 10:00 am. **AND (new) Ladies' Life Group at 11:15 am.**
- **Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study** at 3:00 pm.
- **The Ladies' Breakfast—Monthly:** third Friday at 8:30 am.
- **Game Day—Monthly:** On summer hiatus. (Third Tuesday at 1:00 pm)
- The **Men's IMPACT** is on hiatus. Watch for announcements in the bulletin and here.
- **Volunteering Your Time:** The church needs your gifts and talents. See a need? Want to help somehow? Contact the office.



The Key to the Christian's Joy

MAY 7, 2018

Christian Living Christian Character Joy

from: <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/key-christians-joy>

The word joy appears over and over again in the Scriptures. For instance, the Psalms are filled with references to joy. The psalmists write, "Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning" (Ps. 30:5b) and "Shout for joy to God, all the earth" (Ps. 66:1). Likewise, in the New Testament, we read that joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22), which means that it is a Christian virtue. Given this biblical emphasis, we need to understand what joy is and pursue it.

Sometimes we struggle to grasp the biblical view of joy because of the way it is defined and described in Western culture today. In particular, we often confuse joy with happiness. In the Beatitudes (Matt. 5:3–11), according to the traditional translations, Jesus said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit . . . Blessed are those who mourn . . . Blessed are the meek . . ." (vv. 3–5, emphasis added), and so on. Sometimes, however, translators adopt the modern vernacular and tell us Jesus said happy rather than blessed. I always cringe a little when I see that, not because I am opposed to happiness, but because the word happy in our culture has been sentimentalized and trivialized. As a result, it connotes a certain superficiality. For example, years ago, Charles M. Schulz, in the comic strip *Peanuts*, coined the adage, "Happiness is a warm puppy," and it became a maxim that articulated a sentimental, warm-and-fuzzy idea of happiness. Then there was the catchy song "Don't Worry, Be Happy," released by Bobby McFerrin in the 1980s. It suggested a carefree, cavalier attitude of delight.

However, the Greek word used in the Beatitudes is best translated as blessed, as it communicates not only the idea of happiness but also profound peace, comfort, stability, and great joy. So, we have to be careful when we come to the text of the New Testament that we do not read it through the lens of the popular understanding of happiness and thus lose the biblical concept of joy.

Think again about McFerrin's song. The lyrics are very odd from a contemporary perspective. When he sings, "Don't worry, be happy," he is issuing an imperative, a command: "Do not be anxious. Rather, be happy." He is setting forth a duty, not making a suggestion. However, we never think of happiness in this way. When we are unhappy, we think it is impossible to decide by an act of the will to change our feelings. We tend to think of happiness as something passive, something that happens to us and over which we have no control. It is involuntary. Yes, we desire it and want to experience it, but we are convinced that we cannot create it by an act of the will.

Oddly, McFerrin sounds very much like the New Testament when he commands his listeners to be happy. Over and over again in the pages of the New Testament, the idea of joy is communicated as an imperative, as an obligation. Based on the biblical teaching, I would go so far as to say that it is the Christian's duty, his moral obligation, to be joyful. That means that the failure of a Christian to be joyful is a sin, that unhappiness and a lack of joy are, in a certain way, manifestations of the flesh.

Of course, there are times when we are filled with sorrow. Jesus Himself was called "a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief" (Isa. 53:3). The Scriptures tell us, "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting" (Eccl. 7:2a). Even in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Matt. 5:4). Given that the Bible tells us it is perfectly legitimate to experience mourning, sorrow, and grief, these feelings are not sinful. However, I want you to see that Jesus' words could be translated as "Joyful are those who mourn." How could a person be in mourning and still be joyful? Well, I think we can unravel that knot fairly easily. The heart of the New Testament concept is this: a person can have biblical joy even when he is mourning, suffering, or undergoing difficult circumstances. This is because the person's mourning is directed toward one concern, but in that same moment, he possesses a measure of joy.

How Can We Rejoice Always?

In his letter to the Philippians, the Apostle Paul speaks about joy and about the Christian's duty to rejoice over and over again. For example, he writes, "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4a). This is one of those biblical imperatives, and it leaves no room for not rejoicing, for Paul says Christians are to rejoice always—not sometimes, periodically, or occasionally. He then adds, "Again I will say, Rejoice" (v. 4b). Paul wrote this epistle from prison, and in it he addresses very somber matters, such as the possibility that he will be martyred, poured out as a sacrifice (2:17). Yet he tells the Philippian believers that they should rejoice despite his circumstances.

That brings us back to this matter of how we can be joyful as a matter of discipline or of the will. How is it possible to remain joyful all the time? Paul gives us the key: "Rejoice in the Lord always" (emphasis added). The key to the Christian's joy is its source, which is the Lord. If Christ is in me and I am in Him, that relationship is not a sometimes experience. The Christian is always in the Lord and the Lord is always in the Christian, and that is always a reason for joy. Even if the Christian cannot rejoice in his circumstances, if he finds himself passing through pain, sorrow, or grief, he still can rejoice in Christ. We rejoice in the Lord, and since He never leaves us or forsakes us, we can rejoice always.

***This excerpt is from [Can I Have Joy in My Life?](#) by R.C. Sproul.

REFLECTIONS

**IF YOU
HAVE
NO JOY,
THERE'S
A LEAK
IN YOUR
CHRISTIANITY
SOMEWHERE.**

Pete Sunday

"I count him
braver who
overcomes
his
desires
than him
who
conquers
his
enemies

**FOR
THE
HARDEST
VICTORY
IS OVER
SELF."**

-Aristotle

66
The only things
we can keep
are the things
we freely
give to
GOD 99

C.S. LEWIS



IT IS BEYOND THE REALM OF
POSSIBILITIES
THAT ONE HAS
THE ABILITY TO
OUTGIVE
GOD



CHRISTIANITY
IS UNIQUE
IN THE FACT THAT
**OUR GOD
BECAME A
MAN**

AC 28:24
ChristianQuotes.com



is it not
wonderful
NEWS to
believe that
SALVATION
lies outside
ourselves?

ChristianQuotes.com

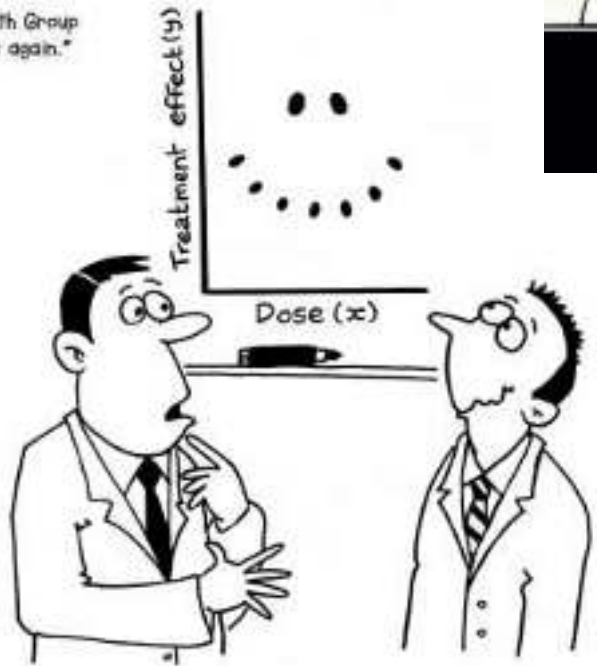


"Remind me never to ask the Youth Group to help fold the church bulletins again."



where you see one set of footprints is where I carried you...

that long groove is where I dragged you kicking and screaming



"It's a non-linear pattern with outliers.....but for some reason I'm very happy with the data."

How to Clean A House

- pick item up off the floor 
- go to doorway of a room 
- throw item into room
- shut door

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Madge figured if her upper arm was gonna flap, she might as well make patriotic use of it.

LIFE IS BETTER WHEN YOU'RE LAUGHING.



Hymns and Where They Came From....

Hymn Stories: Just As I Am

Just As I Am” is one of the few hymns for which we know not only the author’s story but also the exact circumstances in which it was written. Charlotte Elliott of Brighton, England (1789–1871) was either born, or in early life had become, an invalid. Her life was a testimony to patient endurance in suffering, not only physical, but also emotional and spiritual. This was the context in which she wrote the hymn, as her nephew the Rev. Handley C. G. Moule recounted it in 1897:

But ill health still beset her . . . it often caused her the peculiar pain of a seeming uselessness in her life while the circle around her was full of unresting service-ability for God. Such a time of trial marked the year 1834, when she was forty-five years old, and living in Westfield Lodge, Brighton. . .

Her brother, the Rev. H. V. Elliott, had not long before conceived the plan of St. Mary’s Hall, at Brighton — a school designed to give, at nominal cost, a high education to the daughters of clergymen. . . . In aid of St. Mary’s Hall there was to be held a bazaar . . . Westfield Lodge was all astir; every member of the large circle was occupied morning and night in the preparations, with the one exception of the ailing sister Charlotte — as full of eager interest as any of them, but physically fit for nothing.

The night before the bazaar she was kept wakeful by distressing thoughts of her apparent uselessness; and these thoughts passed — by a transition easy to imagine — into a spiritual conflict, till she questioned the reality of her whole spiritual life, and wondered whether it were anything better than an illusion of the emotions, an illusion ready to be sorrowfully dissolved.

The next day, the busy day of the bazaar, she lay upon her sofa. . . . The troubles of the night came back upon her with such force that she felt they must be met and conquered in the grace of God. She gathered up in her soul the great certainties, not of her emotions, but of her salvation: her Lord, his power, his promise. And taking pen and paper from the table she deliberately set down in writing, for her own comfort, ‘the formula of her faith.’

Hers was a heart which always tended to express its depths in verse. So in verse she restated to herself the gospel of pardon, peace, and heaven. (Quoted from Louis Benson, *Studies of Familiar Hymns, Second Series*, 201-202)

Within a matter of years Ms. Elliott had the hymn published in *The Invalid’s Hymn Book*, and from there it spread and gained in popularity.

Many people associate “Just As I Am” with the life and ministry of Billy Graham as for years it was sung during altar calls at his crusades; it is also the title of his autobiography.

Just as I am – without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – though toss’d about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

Just as I am – of that free love
The breadth, length, depth, and height
to prove,
Here for a season, then above,
– O Lamb of God, I come!

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am-Fellowship 9:30am-Bible Study 10:45am-Worship & The Lord's Supper	2	3 10am-Ladies' Bible Study 11:15am Ladies' Life Group	4 10am-Personnel Comm Mtg 3pm-Prayer Meet- ing & Bible Study	5 6pm Choir Practice	6 World Smile Day	7
8 9am-Fellowship 9:30am-Bible Study 10:45am-Worship	9 Columbus Day (Banks Closed)	10 • 10am-Ladies' Bible Study • 11:15am La- dies' Life Group • Bus Mtg Committee Reports Due	11 3pm-Prayer Meet- ing & Bible Study	12 6pm Choir Practice	13 Office Closed	14 Ntl Dessert Day
15 9am-Fellowship 9:30am-Bible Study 10:45am-Worship	16 11am -Missions Comm Mtg	17 10am-Ladies' Bible Study 11:15am Ladies' Life Group	18 9am-Property Comm Mtg 3pm-Prayer Meet- ing & Bible Study	19 6pm-Choir Practice	20 8:30am-Ladies' Breakfast @ iHop Evening: Aspire Women's Event	21 12:30-3pm- Social Saturday
22 9am-Fellowship 9:30am-Bible Study 10:45am-Worship	23	24 10am-Ladies' Bible Study 11:15am Ladies' Life Group	25 3pm-Prayer Meet- ing & Bible Study	26 6pm-Choir Practice	27	28 Ntl Chocolate Day
29 9am-Fellowship 9:30am-Bible Study 10:45am-Worship After Church: 3rd Qtr Business Meeting	30	31 10am-Ladies' Bible Study 11:15am Ladies' Life Group Reformation Day			<i>This month's Bible reading plan is: <u>Zechariah 15</u> <u>through</u> <u>Luke 24</u></i>	<i>The plan is in the monthly newsletter)</i>

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path ." Psalm 119:105 (WEB)

† 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/](https://www.crossroadsbaptistaz.com/)

Pastor: Rick Basch

Deacons

Wes Ehlers, Hector Palma, Mike Tacker, Robert Wisner



Valley Rim Southern Baptist Association

[https:// www.valleyrimbsba.org/](https://www.valleyrimbsba.org/)

AZ Southern Baptist Convention

[https:// azsbc.org/](https://azsbc.org/)

Southern Baptist Convention

[http:// www.sbc.net/](http://www.sbc.net/)

