



First Baptist Church Sun City

What's Happening

March 2025



The Nominating committee is in the process of recruiting new volunteers for several committee vacancies. It is a great opportunity to get plugged in to the church and get to know people while serving the people of the church.

Mission Committee

Kitchen Committee

Personnel Committee

Building and Grounds Supervisor

Someone to be in charge of decorating the church for Christmas

If you are willing to serve or would like more information, please contact the church office or Skip LaMertha, the Nominating Committee Chair.



Have you looked at our church website lately? It has been completely updated and contains lots of valuable information like events, the church calendar and the newsletter. You can also watch past sermons and tune in live on Sundays.

Check it out and let us know what you think.

www.firstbaptistsuncity.com

From the Pastor's Heart



Eph 4:27, "and give no opportunity to the devil."

Have you ever heard the old saying "give an inch and they'll take a mile"? While the devil did not invent this proverbial saying this passage teaches, he is an eager, clever practitioner of this precept!

I want to bring the Greek definition into this because I think it is very important for us to understand how the devil operates.

The first word is, "opportunity." This is the Greek word, "topos" it means place, position, or region. According to Paul, the devil looks for a location to shoot his arrows. This location for us is the mind. Paul in Romans 12:2 and 2 Corinthians 10:5 teaches the importance of the mind of believers. He knows that whoever controls the mind controls the person.

The second word is devil. Which means accuser or slanderer. But this word is not a name but a description. The Greek word is diabolis. It comes from two Greek words. Dia = "through" and ballo = "to throw" When you combine them, we get the word diabolis, "devil. We get our English word, "diabolical" which means, evil or cruel. Relating to the characteristics of the devil. His name means slanderer, but his description means to throw something so hard as to penetrate something and to make it go all the way through. He shoots his arrows of fear, doubt, worry, and tries to penetrate our minds so that we will succumb to these and doubt our faithful God.

Paul says, "don't give the devil an opportunity." How do we do this?

1. **We take up the shield of faith.** *Ephesian 6:16, "In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one."*

His arrows are meant for us to weaken our faith where we would doubt and not trust in God's good promises for us. Faith is the shield that we raise high as these arrows are coming for us. The shield is meant so that the arrows won't hit us. If you don't have a shield, you are in big trouble. But how do we get faith?

2. **Renew your minds with the Word of God.** *Romans 10:17, "So, faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."*

We talk and teach about the importance of reading, studying, meditating on the Word of God. If our minds are not renewed in God's Words, then it is like we don't have a shield. And every time something happens to us, the devils arrows come flying and go right through our minds to take us captive. Paul told the Colossians in Colossians 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly."

When the devils arrows come your way, it is the promises of God that rise up and shield our minds from doubt, fear, and worry.

There are many ways we can let the words of Christ dwell in us richly. Hearing, reading, praying, fellowship with other believers, bible studies, Sunday School. If you are being controlled by doubts, fears, worry, maybe it is time to renew your minds with the promises of God. We must fight to stay in faith. Don't ever let your guard down.

Pastor Billy

Associate Pastor's Perusings



I would like to share an excerpt from “The Discipline of Grace” by Jerry Bridges. It was written 30 years ago, but is just as relevant today.

“I recently heard a statistic that both alarmed and saddened me: Only 4 percent of evangelicals in the United States give a tithe (10%) of their income to God’s work.

Even though some Christians question the application of the Tithe concept in the New Testament era, this is still a shameful statistic. It means the overwhelming majority of professing Christians in the most affluent nation in history are spending most of their income on themselves.

On the other hand, those of us who do give 10 percent or more of our income to God’s work can become proud and self-righteous about it as we look around and see others who are not as generous. In that case, all we are doing is exchanging one sin for another – the sin of materialism and selfishness for the sin of self-righteous pride.”

I agree with Jerry Bridges in being troubled at the message that the statistics conveys. For those who are ready to use the letter of the law as a defense for not tithing, I recognize that it is not legislated for our obligation in the New Testament.

My concern is that so-called “evangelicals” have so many people who have so little gratitude for what God has given them. The attitude seems to be, “I worked for my money, so it’s mine!” Who gave you the ability to work? Who provided a job for you? What is meant by the term “steward of our possessions”?

I discovered over 50 years ago that when I set aside the tithe before I even budget the rest of my income, God always provides enough to cover **all** of the expenses...without fail...ever! I’m bragging on God who gave me health and education; provided opportunities for employment; and has never failed to come through as I claimed His promise in **Philippians 4:19 (NKJV)** “*And my God shall supply **all** your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*”

Do you believe God’s promise or not? Put up or... well, you know!

Your prayers are appreciated as I seek to assist Pastor Bobby and our wonderful staff!

An Ambassador for Christ,

Jim Henderson

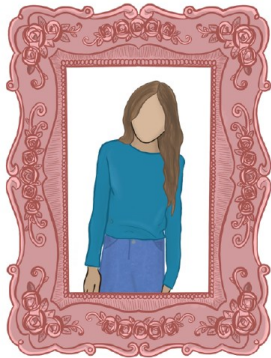


March

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 6 | Pam Marsh |
| 7 | Beth Jackson |
| 9 | Christine Miller |
| 13 | Karen McCarthy |
| 21 | Nancy Fuller |
| 26 | Pattylu Humke |
| 29 | Mike Hinderliter |

An Original Masterpiece



Women's Potluck Luncheon

Monday, March 3rd

11:30 am

Bring something you yourself have created. Example: Something YOU have knitted, sewn, formed, baked, drawn, crafted, etc...

Lunch is Potluck. Sign up at the Member Services table in the Foyer and let us know what you are bringing.

Bringing a friend is always encouraged.

Your host will be Kathe Kiel

Mission Moment



2632 W Augusta Ave | Phoenix, AZ85051 📍
(602) 346 - 2300 📞
rkerr@abcs.org ✉️
newlifepregnancy.com 🌐

January 16, 2025

First Baptist Church Sun City
11019 W Peoria Ave
Sun City, AZ 85351

Dear Congregants of FBC Sun City,

Thank you for your donation of baby items, clothing and new toys to New Life Pregnancy Center (NLPC), a ministry of Arizona Baptist Children's Services & Family Ministries. We appreciate your partnership in coming alongside women facing a pregnancy, planned or unplanned as well as strengthening families in your community. Your support provides opportunities to help women like Naomi*!

Naomi* is a young mother who received a free ultrasound at New Life Pregnancy Center. She and her husband are excited to welcome a second child into their family. When Naomi was younger, she was placed in the foster care system. ABCS staff spent many hours connecting with her during bi-monthly facilitated visits with her mother, who was in prison. The staff was excited to reconnect with her after so many years, and see how her family has grown despite the difficulties Naomi faced. Join us in thanking God for the many answered prayers in Naomi's life. *Name changed

Your donation meets the needs of the clients we serve. Thank you for your heart to provide hope and care to hurting children and families in your community!

Gratefully,



Raquel Kerr
NLPC State Director

Grand Community Baptist Church presents



March 22, 2025
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

\$20 per person

Lunch Included

Payment and registration form due by Sunday, March 2. No late registrations allowed.

Sign up at the Member Services table in the Foyer

Speaker

Shelia Jones



Speaker

Simone Lake



Music Leader

Rezwanna Derbyshire



Session 1 - Identity in Christ

Session 2 - Rewriting Your Future

Session 3 - Spiritual Warfare & Spiritual Disciplines

Session 4 - Finishing Well

LOCATION: Grand Community Baptist Church
18350 N Goldwater Ridge Dr, Surprise



March



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
2	Lord's Supper 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	4 9:00 am Seated Exercise	5 9:00 am Missions Cmte 10:00 am Corporate Prayer 11:00 pm Choir	6 9:00 am Seated Exercise	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8
9	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	11 9:00 am Seated Exercise	12 9:00 am Prayer Warriors 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Choir	13 9:00 am Seated Exercise	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 8:30 am Deacons Mtg
16	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	18 9:00 am Seated Exercise	19 9:00 am Finance Cmte 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Choir	20 9:00 am Seated Exercise	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Women's Conference At Grand Community Church in Surprise
23	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service	25 9:00 am Seated Exercise	26 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Choir	27 9:00 am Seated Exercise	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30	9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Worship Service					
31	9:30 am Staff Meeting					





SUNDAY

9:00 am Bible Study for All Ages
10:30 am Worship Service

WEDNESDAY

10:00 am Bible Study



First Baptist Church Sun City

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Facebook: [@firstbaptistsuncityaz](https://www.facebook.com/firstbaptistsuncityaz)

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Thursday - 8:00 am to 2:00 pm



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