

SICK:

- Cindy Morales- Cancer has returned after two years (mother of Sara Morales).
- Jerry Phelps- Has pneumonia and is in Jim Thorpe rehab.
- Tom Dunn- Having hip surgery on 4/1, Memorial Hospital.
- Craig McDonald- Heath issues.
- Audelle Owen- Broken femur.
- Brad Davis- Had heart surgery with more to come. (Friends of Karen & Wayne Bishop)
- Barbara Hoskins- Extreme Health issues.
- Vicki Shafer- Having hip surgery, and Ken Shafer diagnosed with pancreatic cancer (Family of Rhonda Cotton).
- Linda Toy- Diagnosed with ALS.
- Cheryl Donecker- Finished chemo and now starting radiation, doing better. (Cousin of Norma Wells, living in Wichita, KS)
- Noel Ritter- Has a serious brain injury (Great niece of Barbara Moeller)
- Norma Wells- Grandson has contracted a rare disease.
- Patti Rhea- Her esophagus has narrowed, having difficulty eating. Patti is now home recuperating.
- Joseph and Sarah Woods- Medical needs.
- Ellen Gatliff- Diagnosed with Cancer, now taking chemo treatments.
- Jerry Golson- Has Congestive Heart failure (Friend of Mike Davis).
- ONGOING:**
 - Cole LaBarre- Had brain surgery causing

OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS PRAYER REQUESTS

Alex & Diane Montgomery, IMBD, Medelin, Columbia

- As the first believers in their families, pray for young believers who are struggling to follow Jesus.
- Pray the Montgomery's will have continued access to people from unreached people groups.
- Pray the Holy Spirit will draw people to Himself, transform their hearts and minds, as the Montgomneys. Bring light into darkness.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION:

Colby & Whitni Corsaut, Church Planter, Columbia, Missouri

- Pray that revival breaks out at Mizzou and spreads throughout the city. We desire to see young leaders developed and deployed to the ends of the earth for the glory of the King.

Online
GivingRightNow
Media Women's
newsletterChurch
newsletter

- Harold Gaches- Health Issues (Lead Pastor of FBC West)

SYMPATHY:

- To Norma Wells on the passing of her brother, Archie King, Thursday, March 27, 2025, in California.
- To John and Piper Saville on the passing of his brother, Steven Saville, Monday, March 24, 2025, in Iowa.

FBC CHURCH FAMILY:

- I have been blessed to serve as an Administrative Assistant for almost 27 years. I felt the time had come to spend more time with my husband. I loved coming to work every day and will miss so many wonderful people. FBC has the best staff (ministerial and support) that I have had the privilege to work with. Thank you for being a major part of my life.
- Becky Thompson- Doing well after cancer surgery. Mother of Brandon Thompson
- Awanda Glover- Health issues.
- Jean & John Skinner- Health issues. (Parents of Renee Hardage)
- Mike Finley- Has MS and has back & leg pain.
- Randy Newman-Heart issues.
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Looney
- Daymond McGaughay-Health Issues.
- Cindy Johnson- Health Issues
- Bud Hoskins- Health Issues. (Brother of Michael Hoskins)
- Marcia & Charles Elkins- Health issues.
- Evelyn Ard- Has Kidney failure and Dementia, lives in Georgia. (Mother of Tiffany Burris).
- David Ellsworth- Pray for heart healing and less anxiety.

- Love,
Linda Finley

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**LAWTON · FORT SILL
501 SW B Ave
Lawton, OK 73501

April 6, 2025

FBC Lawton

NEWSLETTER

fbclawton.org

A Theological and Philosophical Rambling on
Miracles

One of my favorite verses in Scripture says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” Today, we are focusing in on the last part of the verse, love God with your mind. Hold onto your seat this might be a wild philosophical ride so stay with me.

The other day I was discussing apologetics with a friend. He said, “Do you think the work of some Christian academics, the kind that a regular person cannot understand, is really important?” It was a great question, and I spent a couple of days thinking through it.

Eventually, I concluded, “Yes, it is of utmost importance.” Since the beginning of time, there has been a war for the mind. It began in the Garden of Eden with a philosophical question: “Does God really want good for you, or is He holding you back?” The battle for the mind continues to rage today, with profound impacts. What is debated at the highest levels of philosophy and academia eventually trickles down to the average person in subtle, but startling ways.

This week, I witnessed a perfect example of this played out in one of my classes, titled “Miracles and the Resurrection.” The question we were posed with was, “How would you define the word ‘miracle?’” Our text defined a miracle as, “an event in which God temporarily makes an exception to the natural order of things, to show that God is acting.”⁽¹⁾ On the surface, that looks pretty good, but what if we

engage our minds? What does this say about the nature of God? Does the unchanging-God of the universe occasionally change the rules He has put in place to govern nature? Is He consistent? Why just temporarily suspend the rules? In the words of Captain Barbosa, “the code is more what you’d call ‘guidelines’ than actual rules.”⁽²⁾

These things are contrary to the very nature of God. I would propose the following definition for the word “miracle”. A miracle is an event in which God chooses to interact within creation and act on a particular circumstance, person, situation, or object to show His glory and for His purpose.

This definition accounts for not a suspension of the laws He created, but an interaction within the created order. For example, if I hit my nephew a fly ball, the law of gravity is not suspended or violated when he catches it, causing it not to hit the ground. He is an agent working within nature, and his interaction within the created order of things is greater than the gravity that would cause the ball to hit the ground. Miracles are like that.

God, transcending creation, being all-powerful, can interact within His creation for His purposes, that on the surface may look like a suspension of a law, but in reality, the agent of interaction is greater than the law put in place. The law continues without temporary suspension or violation, but is acted upon by a force greater than it.

So, what does this philosophical rambling mean for the average believer? First, it

(1) Richard L. Purtill, “Defining Miracles,” in *In Defense of Miracles: A Comprehensive Case for God’s Action in History*, ed. R. Douglas Geivett and Gary Habermas (IVP Academic, 1997), 62–63.

(2) Gore Verbinski, dir., *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* (Walt Disney Pictures, 2003).



THE WEEKLY WORDS
BRANDON THOMPSON
STUDENT MINISTER

FBCLAWTON.ORG
501 SW B AVE
LAWTON, OK. 73501
(580) 353-1770

women's retreat
APRIL 11-12, 2025
daring faith
for such a time as this
FALLS CREEK CONFERENCE CENTERS
OKLAHOMABAPTISTS.ORG/WOMEN
CP COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

**FBC KIDS & ADULT
TEACHER LUNCH
& LEADERSHIP
TRAINING**
April 13th following the Worship Service

Senior Adults Luncheon
Piano Concert
Monday, April 14, 2025 @ 11:00am
Join us for lunch and piano concert from Beverly Little

Vacation Bible School
Associational Clinic
Crossroads Baptist Church in Elgin
April 14th 5:45-8:15pm
Get a head start on VBS!

MAGNIFIED!
PSALM 5:10
DISCOVERING THE BIGNESS OF GOD
IN THE SMALLEST OF THINGS

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK	
Sunday School	305
Morning Worship	657
BUDGET REPORT	
Weekly Required	\$ 36,401.04
Weekly Received	\$ 10,994.85
YTD Required	\$ 1,892,854.08
YTD Received	\$ 1,741,968.50
YTD Percentage	92.03%
Greater Glory	\$ 237,104.86

UPCOMING EVENTS

KSWO Preemptions

Our KSWO broadcast will be preempted on April 6th.

Attention!!

Repairs started Monday, March 17, to the exterior of the building. Please be patient, as there will be equipment around the church grounds. Thank you for your understanding and support as we work to improve our church's facilities for the benefit of the entire congregation.

His Name Is JESUS Shirts

Pick up your shirts today, Sunday, April 6th. Public wear days will be Friday, April 11th, and Friday, April 18th.

FBC Kids Camp Spaghetti Lunch and Performances

Today is our FBC Kids Camp Spaghetti Lunch and performance, starting at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Retreat

Women's retreat at Falls Creek will be April 11-12, 2025. Register online at Oklahomabaptist.org/women/retreat/.

Palm Sunday

We will be having the Lord's Supper on Palm Sunday, April 13th.

Sunday School Leadership Training

Join us for our upcoming FBC Kids & Adult Teacher Lunch & Leadership Training on Sunday, April 13th following the Worship Service. Please sign up by scanning the QR code or visiting our website fbclawton.org/events.

Senior Adults Luncheon & Piano Concert

Join us for the next Senior Adult luncheon on Monday, April 14, at 11:00am. Beverly Little will bless the group with a piano concert. You won't want to miss it!

VBS Associational Clinic

Join us on Monday, April 14th, from 5:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. for the Vacation Bible School Associational Clinic at Crossroads Baptist Church.

Save the Date! Good Friday Service

Good Friday Night of Worship service will be on Friday, April 18th. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the service begins at 7:00 p.m.

M28 Ministries

The next church day to serve is Saturday, April 19th. Help volunteer. Contact Jeff Henderson for more information or email jeff@m28ministries.org

Men's Retreat

Men's retreat at Falls Creek will be April 25-26, 2025. Register online at Oklahomabaptists.org/mens-retreat/

Operation Christmas Child

Good News! There is a place for you with Operation Christmas Child as a Prayer Team Coordinator. This role uses your love for interceding in prayer along with basic internet capability. Text or phone Mary Swafford 281-851-9389 for information on how you can be involved with Operation Christmas Child.

Live Stream

We will be live streaming our worship service at 10:45am on Sunday mornings from our website at fbclawton.org, Facebook Live and YouTube. We will be broadcasting our Morning Worship service on KSWO at 11:00am.



Please join FBC Lawton for Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025 - 10:45 AM

THE HOPE OF THE CROSS

his name is JESUS



SUNDAY, APRIL 6

9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Preschool Extended Session
12:30pm	Morning Worship

MONDAY, APRIL 7

8:30am	Office Hours - 5:00pm
--------	-----------------------

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

8:30am	Office Hours - 5:00pm
9:30am	Rooted Ladies

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

8:30am	Office Hours - 5:00pm
9:30am	Friendship International Fellowship Meal
4:45pm	PreK/KDG Midweek
6:00pm	Christ-Centered Living
	Divorce Care
	Midweek Media Team
	Student's Midweek
	Worship Choir Rehearsal
	Women's Connection
	Worship Choir Rehearsal
	Men's Gathering

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

8:30am	Office Hours - 5:00pm
--------	-----------------------

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

Office Closed	
Women's Retreat-Falls Creek	

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Office Closed	
Women's Retreat-Falls Creek	

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 - PALM SUNDAY

9:30am	Sunday School
10:45am	Preschool Extended Session
12:30pm	Morning Worship - Lord Super Kids & Adults Leadership Training/Lunch Roatan Mission Trip Meeting - Parlor

MEMBER NOTICES:

Please come join us April 9, 2025, at 4:45pm for our weekly fellowship meal. Adults \$5.00, Kids (5-12) \$3.00, (under 5 free) \$20 Family Max (5 or more people). Menu: Roast Chicken & Potatoes, Salad Bar, Dessert.