

SICK:

- Emma Rhinehart- had knee surgery, now recovering.
- Holly Phillips- Badly burned in home accident.
- Madelyn Corbett- Had Gallbladder surgery 6/25 now home recuperating.
- Patti Rhea- Her esophagus has narrowed, not allowing her to eat or swallow. She's in CCMH.
- Mike Moore- Had hip replacement surgery 6-24, doing well.
- Bryer Olivia Means- Infant daughter of Emily & Kenton Means had heart surgery 6-17 at OU Children's Hospital. Surgery went well. Bryer is the Granddaughter of Kay and Philip Means. Update: Now home and doing well.
- Dave Hardison- Now home recuperating.
- Kathy Schneider- Recovering at home after having foot surgery.
- Jerry Phelps- Recovering at home.
- Sheila Newman- Had hip replacement surgery 4/18.
- Anna Johnson- Cancer, on Hospice (Mother of Clayton Johnson)
- Ellen Gatliff- Diagnosed with Cancer, now taking chemo treatments.
- Chuck Klein- Cancer has spread
- Bob Couch- Serious Health Issues (Brother of Ken Couch)
- Steve Harwell- Diagnosed with brain cancer. He & Deborah are former members, and living in Del City, OK.
- Linda Waybrant-Will have stent surgery 6/26 on her other leg at CCMH. Now recuperating.
- Barbie Johnson- Serious medical

ONGOING:

- Cole LaBarre- Had brain surgery causing a stroke, trauma to his left side leaving him blind. Still doing therapy & speech with movement starting to come back. Update: He is walking alone now, short distances and his sight has returned a tiny bit in both eyes. (Cole is the great, great nephew of Brenda Bell)
- Randy Newman- Heart issues
- Awanda Glover- Health issues
- Cindy Johnson- Health issues
- Beth Mercer- Health issues
- Marcia & Charles Elkins- Health issues
- Tommy Morgan-Lost his left eye to infection and has a prosthesis and has glaucoma in his right eye and cancer. Update: Chemo Infusions have caused his pancreas to stop producing insulin, now he's a life-long diabetic. Chemo has been suspended until July. Eyes are now stable with its AMD and glaucoma.
- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Looney
- Karen & Chuck Loefke- Health

OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS PRAYER REQUESTS:

Falls Creek, Davis, Oklahoma

- Pray youth will gain a new understanding of Jesus this summer.
- Pray their relationship with Him will be strengthened.
- Pray for unity, purpose and action in the church through Falls Creek youth camp.

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD PRAYER REQUESTS:

Emmitt and Michele Furner, Chaplain, US Army Chaplain, Elgin, SC

- Pray for our country, specifically our elected officials and the decisions they make that impact our service members and their families. Pray their decisions are under the will of God.

Online



RightNow



Women's



Church



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

issues

- Mike Finley- Has MS and has back & pain issues.
- Daymond McGaughay- Health issues
- Phyllis Scott- Has moved to be with her daughter in Owasso, OK.
- Bud Hoskins- Health Issues (Brother of Michael Hoskins)
- Connie McCoy- Update: Connie is adjusting to the changes needed for her heart condition. (Friend of April Bowden).
- Norma Wells- Had Back Surgery on May 31 and had complications. She hopes to leave OU Medical in a few days.
- Evelyn Ard- Has Kidney failure and Dementia, lives in Georgia (Mother of Tiffany Burris)
- David Ellsworth- Pray for heart healing and less anxiety.
- Harold Gaches- Health Issues (Lead Pastor of FBC West).

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

LAWTON · FORT SILL
501 SW B Ave
Lawton, OK 73501

July 7, 2024



THE WEEKLY WORDS
RYLEE WOESSNER
CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Divine Hiddleness

The divine hiddleness of God has sparked much debate and concern in the philosophical and theological world for atheists and Christians alike. The problem of divine hiddleness can be explained in the lamest of terms as, "How can a personal God, be so hidden from His people." Even within the realm of divine hiddleness, God is personal in His nature.

Many Christians have left the faith because they no longer "feel God." Faith can be defined as believing in God even though He cannot be seen physically. A part of the Christian faith is trusting beyond what one's feelings and physical eyesight can comprehend. Gregory of Nyssa held the belief that people know God by participation in God. (1) Therefore, belief in God requires a person to take a step-in faith or belief in God. Furthermore, a relationship with God requires one to have a desire to have a relationship with God. (2) Throughout the Bible especially in the book of Psalms, God's people are seen crying out to Him searching, seeking, and asking for help. The Psalmists at times are desperate for God to intervene in their circumstances. (3) If God was noticeably present 100% all of the time there would be no need for one to turn to Him, thus God's divine hiddleness is for humanity's benefit. (4)

The first example of hiddleness in the Bible is not God hiding from humanity, but humanity hiding from God. (5) Sin in the believer's life can cause confusion and a disconnect in one's relationship with God. Sin can account for some of the aspects of the hiddleness of God. Another important note of the divine hiddleness of God is the fact that God is God and humanity is not God. If one knew the exact nature and essence of God, then they would be on the level of the divine.

The human mind was designed with the ability to detect God's presence. (6) There are endless examples of believers having a sense of God's presence. (7) God's activity in the world is seen through the fruit of His people. (8) Ultimately, God physically and personally revealed Himself to His people through His Son Jesus Christ. God also personally revealed Himself and connects people through His Word and the Holy Spirit. (9) Another way that God personally revealed Himself is through His creation. In other words, God makes Himself known through the things He made. (10) Ultimately God's revelation is defined as an encounter between persons, not abstract concepts, thus God's revelation to humanity is personal time and time again and not hidden. (11)

1 King, 27

2 Rea, 169.

3 Waltman, 1.

4 King, 14.

5 King, 15.

6 Rea, 95.

7 Rea, 116.

8 King, 65.

9 Waltman, 17.

10 Waltman, 18.

11 Waltman, 50.

References:

King, Derek S. *The Church and the Problem of Divine Hiddleness: Mirrors of God*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2023.

Rea, Michael C. *The Hiddleness of God*. New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Waltman, Joshua C. *Why Does God Seem So Hidden?* Eugene, Oregon: Pickwick Publications, 2023.



**An Evening with
Conchita Guevara**
Monday, July 8, 2024
6:30-8:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall
Crafting Flowers - Snacks - Time of Testimony

**FIRST BAPTIST LAWTON
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING
BBQ
EVENT**
SUNDAY, JULY 28 AT 5 PM

GRILLERS AND MEAT NEEDED!
SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE IN BOTH SS CLASS AND
WELCOME CENTER.

- POTLUCK - BRING YOUR FAVORITE BBQ SIDE DISH OR
DESSERT.
- CHURCH WILL PROVIDE DRINKS AND PAPER GOODS.

WEAR YOUR BEST APRON!

FBC KIDS & Students

July 10th Midweek (CrossTimbers Parent/Camper Meeting)
July 15th-19 Falls Creek
JULY 17TH NO MIDWEEK
July 23-26 CrossTimbers
JULY 24TH NO MIDWEEK (FALLS CREEK AFTER PARTY)
July 31st Midweek
August 7th Midweek
August 14th Midweek
August 21st Back To School Bash

FBC LAWTON STUDENTS
NEXT WEDNESDAY
JULY 10
**JUNGLE ICE FUN
ZONE NIGHT!!**
COST: \$10
MEET AT THE STUDENT
CENTER AT 5 PM
STUDENTS WILL GO PLAY MINI GOLF AND RETURN BY 9 PM

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Sunday School	278
Morning Worship	577

BUDGET REPORT

Weekly Required	\$ 36,401.04
Weekly Received	\$ 21,727.25
YTD Required	\$ 473,213.52
YTD Received	\$ 443,030.48
YTD Percentage	91.50%
Vision 2020 Commitments	\$ 745,202.00
Vision 2020 Received	\$ 788,216.86
Current Balance on Vision 2020 loan	\$ 27,946.77

UPCOMING EVENTS

Silver Saints Luncheon
July 8 luncheon is **CANCELED!** Next luncheon will be in August.

CrossTimbers Required Parent/Camper Meeting
If your kiddos are attending CrossTimbers we have a REQUIRED Parent/Camper meeting in the Family Life Center on Wednesday, July 10th at 6:00pm. Email rylee@fbclawton.org if you have any questions!

Falls Creek Parent Camper Meeting
There will be a parent camper meeting to cover Falls Creek information on Sunday, July 7 in the Fellowship Hall right after morning worship.

Falls Creek Cleanup Help
FBC Lawton Students need approximately ten people to assist with cleanup at Falls Creek on July 19th at 6:00 PM.

Quarterly Business Celebration/BBQ Event
The Quarterly Business Celebration/BBQ Potluck Event will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 28, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Grillers and meat are needed! Sign-up sheets are available in Sunday School Classes and the Welcome Center. This is a potluck event, so all the meats and side dishes will be put on a table for all to partake in.

Kitchen Cleanup
Volunteers are needed for kitchen cleanup on July 29, 30, and 31 from 8:30 to 1 p.m. Please get in touch with Reed Johnson at 580.591.1061 if you would like to help.

Save the Date
Two new discipleship classes. "Firm Foundation" Eight foundational truths of our faith. August 18 - September 29. "Home Base" A five week study on navigating the bases of Biblical Church Membership. October 20 - November 10. Taught by Troy Taylor, Associate Pastor. Registration coming soon!

Giddy Up Sunday
Promotion Sunday for FBC Kids and FBC Students is on August 11th.

Utah Missions Trip
The FBC Missions Team is excited for the upcoming mission trip to Salt Lake City to serve with Hope Valley Church on October 2-7, 2024. Open to all adults. We will be ministering to the local community and helping Hope Valley with community relations. We will also be helping the Salt Lake Baptist Association. They will put the final itinerary together after we have our team assembled that will best fit our team. If you would like to join us on this trip please fill out the missions trip application on our webpage at www.fbclawton.org/missions. You will find more info on our webpage as well. Deadline for sign up is Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

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.



July 15th-19th

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

Cost: \$125

Contact Brandon with any questions at Brandon@fbclawton.org

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving."

Colossians 4:2

www.fbclawton.org/connected/pray

MINISTERS:

God's mighty hand continues to bless us in all areas of life and church life! What a blessing to serve as Administrative Pastor here at FBC Lawton for 13 years! We are excited to see the movement of God in our church and witnessing prayers become reality.

I love all the activities we are involved in throughout the Summer. Heather and I realize how precious these next few years will be with the boys before they start their college careers. We just want to press the pause button, so they would stop growing. Speaking of growing up, please pray for us as Lane has started driving and Cade is currently in Driver's Ed with Max Plunk at Master Driving School. The roads will never be the same. It is nice not to have to drive them around everywhere now, but our prayer life has changed a bit! Pray for us all!

Heather and I will be sponsors at Falls Creek this year. Please pray for us and all sponsors. May the Holy Spirit speak to the hearts and lives of all involved. Pray for Brandon and Courtney as they lead us all on this great adventure.

-Mike Neff

MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING:

Brookridge
Georgianna Anderson #26
Clydene Fox #50
Tom Munson #82
Kotoko Ratliff #58
Nancy Smith #55

MISSIONARIES IN EAST ASIA:

Brady & Julie Plunk and children

MEMBER NOTICES:

Wednesday Fellowship Meal

Meals will resume back on Wednesday, August 7 from 4:45-6pm.

Employment Opportunities: Facilities Manager & Childcare Workers

Applicants will find job summaries on the web-site at fbclawton.org/employment and may apply by filling out an online application or by picking up a printed application in the church office.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Morning Worship
3:00pm Falls Creek Parent Camper Mtg
No Evening Services

MONDAY, JULY 8

8:30am Office Hours - 5:00pm
6:30pm An Evening with Conchita Guevara

TUESDAY, JULY 9

8:30am Office Hours - 5:00pm
9:30am Rooted Ladies Bible Study
10:00am Truthseekers Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

8:30am Office Hours - 5:00pm
6:00pm Kid's Midweek
CrossTimbers Parent/Child Mtg
Student Bible Study
Jungle Ice Fun Zone
WCW Bible Study Community
Mens Gathering

THURSDAY, JULY 11

8:30am Office Hours - 5:00pm

FRIDAY, JULY 12

Office Closed

SATURDAY, JULY 13

SUNDAY, JULY 14

9:30am Sunday School
10:45am Kid's-4-Christ-Childrens Bldg
10:45am Morning Worship- Lord Supper
No Evening Services

