

Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119

480-982-9120

November 2021



My sermons over the last few Sundays have had their source in the book of James. James is a good study on how a believer behaves. I am struck by James 2:15-16.

James 2:15-16 (NIV) – 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

During October, we commenced our drive to fill our food pantry. Let me announce that the mission has been accomplished. In fact, we have already distributed food to some folks in need. I anticipate we will be seeing more needy as the word gets out. Every food item that we pass out testifies to our faith and that we do more than just wish our brother well.

We need to keep our pantry stocked and I will let you know when we need resupply. Our current pantry has limited space. I hope to acquire some shelf space in the children's section to expand our pantry.

As a church we need to seek ways to turn our “claims” into “aims.” What do I mean by that? If we claim to care for the poor and less fortunate among us, then what are we doing and what are our goals?

A good example is our food pantry. Through our food pantry ministry, we provide food and prayer for those in need. **We are proving that we care by turning our “claims” into actions. We also go out of our way to treat everyone with respect as images of God. Additionally, we “aim” to expand our pantry to meet growing community needs.**

Beginning this month, we commence our “I Can” drive whereby we bring to the church empty, clean, aluminum cans. We will have a collection barrel for your cans. The cans will be recycled at 80 cents a pound and the proceeds will go to the Benevolence Fund. This is a project where everyone “can” be involved. Eighty cents may not seem like much, but Gods Word says in Zech 4:10, “Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the LORD that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?”

Together, let us seek more ways to minister to our community and to show them that we walk our talk. I know you will because you have proven beyond a doubt that your love is not lip service but that it has feet on it! That is why it is easy for me to say:

God loves you! And so do I! Pastor Rick



Proclamation of Thanksgiving

This is the proclamation which set the precedent for America's national day of Thanksgiving. During his administration, President Lincoln issued many orders similar to this. For example, on November 28, 1861, he ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a 74-year-old magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on September 28, 1863, urging him to have the "day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival." She explained, "You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the States; it now needs National recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution."

Prior to this, each state scheduled its own Thanksgiving holiday at different times, mainly in New England and other Northern states. President Lincoln responded to Mrs. Hale's request immediately, unlike several of his predecessors, who ignored her petitions altogether. In her letter to Lincoln she mentioned that she had been advocating a national thanksgiving date for 15 years as the editor of Godey's *Lady's Book*. George Washington was the first president to proclaim a day of thanksgiving, issuing his request on October 3, 1789, exactly 74 years before Lincoln's.

The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary how he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.

Washington, D.C.

October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

William H. Seward,

Our RENOVATED SANCTUARY
is beautiful & inviting!!
Join us on November 14 for
our vendors and
committee appreciation
day





November

Average Sunday Worship Attendance: 62

Average Sunday School Attendance: 30

Average Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study Attendance: 14



If you or someone you know needs prayer immediately, contact our Prayer Chain Chairperson, Martha Finton



If you know of a church member who is a shut-in or in the hospital, and would like a visit and the Lord's Supper taken to them, contact Pastor Rick or one of the deacons.



- Sunday Fellowship - coffee & donuts 9:00 a.m.
- Bible Study at 9:30 a.m.
- Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.
- Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 5:30 p.m. Join us for a great study and discussion; bring a friend.
- **The Ladies' Breakfast is the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.**
- **The Men's IMPACT meets one Saturday each month for breakfast at the church.**
- Volunteering your Time: The church needs your gifts and talents. Volunteer to serve on a committee and bless others through your service.



The seasons in Arizona:

January: chilly hot
 February: mild hot
 March: hot
 April: hot
 May: real hot
 June: super hot
 July: surface of the sun
 August: hot with a side of haboob
 September: hot
 October: spooky hot
 November: still hot
 December: hot with decorations

We honor & celebrate all our members and friends who will celebrate NOVEMBER birthdays and anniversaries.
(Lists are now on the information table)



MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL
JOY & PEACE
AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY
OVERFLOW WITH HOPE
BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
Romans 15:13
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Martha continues her card ministry for the church for birthdays, anniversaries, get well, bereavement, encouragement, etc. Each card is sent on behalf of the church (each of you). Through her ministry, friends and family are extended the love of Jesus through the mail. Thank you!

*November Birthstone: Topaz, Citrine

*November Flowers: Chrysanthemum

**The birthstones tradition can be traced back to the first century. The stones were used in the breastplate of Jewish High Priests, symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel.*

If we missed your special day, please contact our church secretary, Beth, in the office at 480-982-9120 or email her at crossrdsbc@yahoo.com.



As we head to the holiday season, the library committee would like to thank everyone for their patience during the renovation. We have been blessed with many changes.

We would also like to ask that as you get busy with all the decorating, shopping, and entertaining remember to take time to be thankful for all the blessings given to us.

We have an excellent library that I'm very thankful for.

When you need a break from all the hectic days of holiday preparation, we have lots of great books to choose from and movies for those small get togethers.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving



--Carol Korte and the Library Committee

The Thanksgiving holiday is a great time to slow down and give God thanks for all He's done for us in the preceding months. But as happens so often during times of celebration, it becomes a time of high tension and stress.

These thanksgiving prayers will remind you to focus your heart and attention on what really matters: your Heavenly Father, the giver of all good gifts.

Have you ever found yourself wondering, what is a good prayer for Thanksgiving? or, what is the prayer of thanksgiving in the Bible? Or even, how do you say thanks to God?

Let me remind you that God is more concerned about the state of your heart than the fluency of your words.

A prayer of thanksgiving is one that takes self out of the equation and puts God in His proper place: at the center of everything.

Everything we have comes from God and through Him. It is He who deserves all the credit and glory for what we've accomplished. Had it been for our efforts alone, we could and would do nothing. When we stop to consider that, gratitude flows out of our hearts and through our lips.

When we don't know how to pray, we can always find inspiration from people in the Bible. I liked Daniel's thanksgiving prayer after God answered his prayer in Daniel chapter two.

Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand." Daniel 2:20-23 NKJV

Daniel's prayer gives us a model for our own thanksgiving prayers:

1. Praise God for His attributes
2. Thank Him specifically for what He has done.

Many of us believe that prayers have to be long or filled with illustrious words to be accepted by God. But God knows the heart. He doesn't want flattery. He wants sincere praise. We give thanks to God because His mercy endures forever and ever. Prayers of thanksgiving are our way of praising God for all He's done for us. We should express our gratitude to God daily. A thankful heart is one that is always lifted up in worship.

(excerpts from <https://hebrews12endurance.com/thanksgiving-prayers/>)

What is that Jewish date on my calendar...???

What Is Hanukkah?

Chanukah (also spelled Hanukkah) is an 8-day Jewish festival marking the miraculous victory of the Maccabees, Jewish freedom fighters, over the Seleucidian Greek occupiers in the year **139 BCE**. After recapturing Jerusalem's Holy Temple, which had been converted into a place of idol worship, they searched for pure oil with which to light the Temple menorah. They found just enough to burn for one day, but miraculously it burned for eight days until more oil could be brought.



Chanukah (Hanukkah) 2021 starts at nightfall on November 28 and ends with nightfall on December 6, beginning on the Hebrew calendar date of 25 Kislev, and lasting for eight days.

How is Hanukkah Celebrated?

On each of the eight nights of Chanukah, Jewish people light special menorahs (candelabras), adding another flame each night, until on the eighth night eight flames are burning brightly. The lighting takes place at home, in a doorway or near a window, and is performed after brief blessings are recited.

On Chanukah, it is customary to play with *dreidels*, tops upon which four Hebrew letters, nun, gimmel, hay, and shin, are written.



In modern times, communal menorah lightings are often held in public squares, sharing Chanukah's message of the triumph of light over darkness and freedom to worship G-d.

Hanukkah Foods

To commemorate the miracle, which involved oil, oily foods are enjoyed on Chanukah. Since the Middle Ages, doughnuts (*sufganiyot*) have been a Chanukah favorite. Among Ashkenazim, potato pancakes (*latkes*) are also a classic. It is also customary to eat dairy on Chanukah, recalling how the brave Yehudit served cheese and wine to a Greek general before defeating him.



(Excerpts from https://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/article_cdo/aid/671899/jewish/When-Is-Hanukkah-Chanukah-Celebrated-in-2021-2022-2023-2024-and-2025.htm)



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.’”

Barnabas A Note from the Director

International For the past several weeks, our eyes have been on the global news as it relates to the ongoing situation in Afghanistan. Thousands have been evacuated in one of the largest humanitarian crises in modern time. We have been drawn into personal evacuation stories as an organization through prayer but also through direct action as we have witnessed God’s faithful hand in rescuing dear brothers and sisters in Christ, seeking to see the country of their birth. These images have impacted us all differently as we’ve watched, waited, and witnessed this tragic event unfold.

This has caused me to revisit the first few chapters of Joshua. A man in Scripture that was called to an enormous task which in many ways was a new beginning for the children of Israel. From Exodus 3 to Deuteronomy 34, the Bible focuses attention on the ministry of Moses, God’s chosen servant to lead the nation of Israel. The torch is passed to Joshua and a new beginning of leadership. In the book of Joshua, one era of redemptive history comes to an end, and a new one begins. The story of Joshua gives us a new leader, a new land and a new life for God’s chosen people.

As I’ve watched the images of the mass exodus in Afghanistan, I’m reminded that for thousands of people this will be a new beginning. The refugees coming out will find themselves under new leadership. They will be settling in a new land, and they will begin a new life. For those believers remaining in country, this is likely to be a season of suffering and persecution as they seek to stand firm in their faith.

When I think of our ministry in Barnabas I recognize what a great opportunity we have in this current global scene. We are ministers of encouragement. **To encourage literally means to put heart into. Some define encouragement as, to inspire with courage, spirit or hope or to give someone support, confidence, or hope.**

The words from Joshua 1:9, **Be strong and courageous. do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.** are so important in times like these. Certainly, Joshua was encouraged in his calling. He was also encouraged through God’s promises revealed through His words. It’s one thing to say to someone **Be strong and courageous** and quite different to enable him to do it. Joshua’s strength and courage would come from meditating on the Word of God, believing its promises, and obeying its precepts.

One of our Barnabas staff members recently shared this amazing perspective on courage. It comes from a global worker who experienced their own trauma having spent some time in an African jail. May these words **put heart into** your discouraged soul.

When the world is on fire, sometimes the most courageous thing you can do is recognize that your role in the dramatic events around you might be to **Be Still**. To be quiet. To refuse to swirl because anyone who has been through trauma knows that adding more motion and tension to the situation only magnifies it. In days like these, the temptation is to be in fruitless motion because others are on the move, to be internally disrupted while others are displaced, to absorb the chaos because others are chaotic, and we don’t know what else to do but feel out of control with them. **BUT** it is a courageous thing to be still on behalf of those who cannot. To be sober minded for those who cannot think clearly. To sing on behalf of those whose voice cannot be raised above a whisper right now. To pray bold prayers of faith over those whose faith is but a glowing ember in a pile of ashes. To go to battle with the darkness for those who feel pressed in by evil on every side and don’t have the strength to proclaim the Truth. It is a courageous thing to believe that taking this humble position is a holy resistance against the manufacturer of chaos. To be still is in fact, doing something. And maybe more than we know.

My prayer for each of us today is that we too would be people who would receive and embrace the courage that comes from the Lord as we face the challenges within our lives but even more so that we would be an extension of HIS divine courage to others.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of this ministry of encouragement. It is needed more today than ever!

Serving together,
Perry Bradford
Executive Director

I AM SWIFT AS A GAZELLE.



Brain cells, hair cells, and skin cells all die constantly, but stinkin **FAT CELLS** must have accepted Jesus as their Savior because they seem to have **ETERNAL LIFE!** 😊

WHEN YOU CAN'T THINK OF A WORD, SAY, "I FORGET THE ENGLISH WORD FOR IT." THAT WAY PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE BILINGUAL INSTEAD OF AN IDIOT.



THAT'S NOT MY JOB!

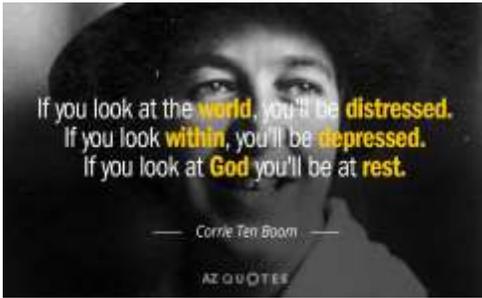
This is a story about four people named: **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody** and **Nobody**. There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job. **Everybody** thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realised that **Everybody** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

El Arroyo



LIFE IS JUST A SERIES OF OBSTACLES PREVENTING YOU FROM TAKING A NAP





THIS DAY IN HISTORY:

Nov 1, 1800: Pres. John Adams moves into the White House—the first president to live there.

Nov 2, 1721: Peter the Great becomes Emperor of Russia.

Nov 3, 1952: Clarence Birdseye marketed frozen peas.

Nov 6, 1860: Abraham Lincoln elected President of the U.S.

Nov 8, 1889: Montana became the 41st state.

Nov 9, 1927: Giant pandas are discovered in China.

Nov 10, 1775: The United States Marine Corp was created.

Nov 10, 1951: Telephone area codes were put in use.

Nov 1, 1620: Forty one Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower sign a **compact calling for a “body politick” just off the Mass. Coast.**

Nov 13 1927: The Holland Tunnel under the Hudson River opens to the public connecting NYC & New Jersey.

Nov 13, 1942: The minimum draft age was lowered from 21 to 18.

Nov 14, 1968: The first streetcar went into operation.

Nov 15, 1777: The Articles of Confederation approved by the Continental Congress.

Nov 18, 1872: Susan B. Anthony is arrested for leading a group of women to register & then vote at a Rochester, NY polling site.

Nov 18, 1928: **Disney’s *Steamship Willie* premieres—Mickey Mouse in “born.”**

Nov 19, 1863: Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address.

Nov 20, 1959: Ford quit making the unpopular Edsel.

Nov 22, 1963: Pres John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

Nov 24, 1859: Charles Darwin publishes his theory on evolution, sparking great controversy.

Nov 26, 1789: At the request of both houses of Congress, Pres. George Washington proclaims Thanksgiving Day—the first official U.S. holiday.

Nov 28, 1925: **The “Grande Ole Opry” debuts on radio.**

Nov 30, 1782: The U.S. and Great Britain sign a peace treaty in

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safety Protection Month Natl Adoption Awareness Month Native American Heritage Month 	1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Saints Day Natl Author's Day 	2 Deviled Egg Day	3 5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Sandwich Day	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> King Tut Day Check Your Blood Pressure Day Use Your Common Sense Day 	5	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Lovers Day Nat; Nacho Day
7 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship Daylight Saving Time ends at 2am	8	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Freedom Day Young Readers Day 	10 5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study USMC Day	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caregiver Appreciation Day World Kindness Day Sadie Hawkins Day
14 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship Renovation Vendor & Staff Appreciation Day World Diabetes Day	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Your Refrigerator Day Natl Philanthropy Day 	16 Natl Fast Food Day	17 5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting & Bible Study World Peace Day	18 Great American Smokeout Day	19	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absurdity Day Natl Adoption Day Universal Childrens Day
21 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship World Hello Day	22 Go for a Ride Day	23 8:30 am-Ladies' Breakfast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat a Cranberry Day Natl Cashew Day 	24 NO PRAYER MEETING OR BIBLE STUDY	25 Holiday Office Closed 	26 Holiday Office Closed You're Welcome Day	27 Pins & Needles Day
28 9 am-Fellowship 9:30 am-Bible Study 10:45 am-Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advent Begins Chanukah Begins 	29 Square Dance Day	30 Stay at Home Because You Are Well Day				

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”—Colossians 3:17

† Crossroads † Baptist Church Great Commission Church

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Email: crossrdsbc@yahoo.com

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

Pastor: Rick Basch

Deacons

David Douglas
Mike Tacker

Hector Palma
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/>

