

# Crossroads Baptist Church Newsletter

2001 S. Starr Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119

480-982-9120

FEBRUARY 2022

## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

**As we move Into** the second month of 2022; we can look back with thankfulness and look forward to the rest of the year with (fill in the Blank). I do not know what you put in the blank, but I can guess that it fell somewhere between “Excitement” and “Reservation.”

How we view the future often indicates our spiritual condition. And our spiritual condition can vary depending on many factors. There are times when our faith talk, and our faith walk come effortlessly. Then there are times where we must remind ourselves that despite how things appear — God is still in control.

There are seasons during this long and wearying pilgrimage when we undergo severe tests of our faith—tests that are often related to our losses and bereavements. Sometimes our challenges weigh us down and we just trudge through our day the best we can.

On our good days we easily and immediately regard it as unassailably true that heaven is real, that Providence is kind, that God is working all things for good, that even our deepest griefs will someday prove to be light and momentary afflictions when measured against an eternal weight of glory.

There are days where we have all the boldness of Peter and other days all the hesitation of Thomas.

While we prefer the boldness of Peter, we must learn that faith is not passive but active, not always a function of how we are feeling, but often an act of the will. Such faith is no less real when it comes as a decision than when it comes from an overflowing heart.

Faith is often choosing to believe in the face of grief, the face of adversity, the face even of doubt. Faith is grasping and reaching toward divine promises, taking hold of what God has said to be true, clinging to it with whatever conviction we can muster, and pleading—pleading earnestly—that God will be powerfully present in his grace and comfort. Faith brings us far beyond the end of ourselves and leaves us utterly dependent upon the goodness and mercy of a loving God.

What does it mean to trust God? It means that in our lowest moments we will resolve to believe that what God says is true. It means that even in our darkest valleys we will determine to take God at his word. It means that even when we don't know what to do or where to go, we will look to God with faith and, as either an immediate instinct or a deliberate act of the will, anchor ourselves on the One who has promised that his every word proves true and reliable, that he will shelter and protect all those who run to him for refuge.

**Psalm 34:8 (NIV)** — “Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.”

God loves you! And so do I! Pastor Rick

## 17. Daniel Survived the Lion's Den

### Daniel 6:1-26 KJV

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes ... And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first ... because an excellent spirit was in him ... the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel ... but they could find none occasion nor fault ... said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it ... concerning the law of his God.

Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, ... All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains ... together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions ... king Darius signed the writing ...

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree ... Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him ... no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed. Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king scaled it with his own signet ... that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting; neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

... king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions ... he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel ... O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me ... innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Then was the king exceedingly glad ... And the king commanded ... those men which had accused Daniel ... cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces ... Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages ... I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

W N H A T T H Y R E T S A M E  
B O G N I T S A F D T M F E T  
O I V D E L A E S R U A S R E  
N N P H A S T E E S U E E I L  
E I L E M Y E H I L C M E A B  
S M T N T T C T N B F N O A  
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P I E C E S D R E X G M S O Y  
S T A T U T E D Z C E V L N N  
Q K M D A R I U S D E N G I S

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### 17. Daniel Survived the Lion's Den

BONES	HASTE	PRINCES
DANIEL	HURT	ROYAL
DARIUS	KNEES	SEALED
DEN	LAMENTABLE	SIGNED
DOMINION	LIONS	SIGNET
EXCELLENT	MASTERY	SORE
FASTING	MUSICK	STATUTE
FAULT	OCCASION	TREMBLE
FIRM	PETITION	TWENTY
GLAD	PIECES	WRITING

# 50 Science-Backed Health Facts That Will Blow Your Mind

By Alex Daniel, March 5, 2020 (Excerpts from <https://bestlifeonline.com/health-facts/>)

With the sheer number of wellness trends and so-called health "experts" out there, it can be hard to trust the information you hear about your [physical and mental well-being](#). But by turning to research and data, you can parse out the [hard truths about your health](#) from the [nonsense](#). And to help you out, we've compiled 50 facts about everything from your body to your brain that are surprising, but 100 percent true. From the unlikely sense heightened by anxiety to the shocking link between your birthday and your death, these astonishing [science-backed health facts](#) will blow your mind.

*(Continued from January's Newsletter.)*

## **14 | Humans are the only animals with chins.**

Try to picture another animal besides a human with a chin. You're probably not able to, right? Well, that's because humans are the only animals with chins. Of course, other animals have jaws, but as anthropologist James Pampush told The Atlantic, "only humans have chins." Though scientists aren't entirely sure why we have this feature, one theory is that our chins make it easier for us to chew. Who knew?

## **15 | A surprising number of people have an extra bone in their knee .**

It turns out that some people have an extra bone in their knee called a fabella. While this little bone with an unknown purpose was previously less common, over the last century, it's started to pop up on X-rays more and more. According to a 2019 study published in the Journal of Anatomy, humans were nearly 3.5 times more likely to have a fabella in 2000 than in 1900. 7 | Your blood makes up nearly one-tenth of your total body weight.

## **16 | More than half of your bones are in your hands and feet.**

There are 206 bones in the adult human body. And with 27 bones in each hand and 26 in each foot, these skeletal structures are the most complex, amounting to 106 bones total between all four limbs, according to the BBC.

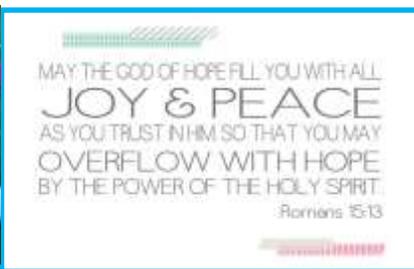
## **18 | Riding a roller coaster could help you pass a kidney stone.**

After multiple people reported passing kidney stones while riding Walt Disney World's Big Thunder Mountain Railroad ride, a research team from Michigan State University decided to investigate the phenomenon in 2016. The researchers conducted tests with a model kidney and found that there was a 64 percent kidney stone pass rate for those seated in the rear of the roller coaster. That number was 16 percent for those seated in the front. According to the head researcher, the ideal coaster for passing kidney stones "is rough and quick with some twists and turns, but no upside down or inverted movements." And clearly, you'll want that front row seat.

## **19 | Reading a tangible book promotes better comprehension than reading on a screen.**

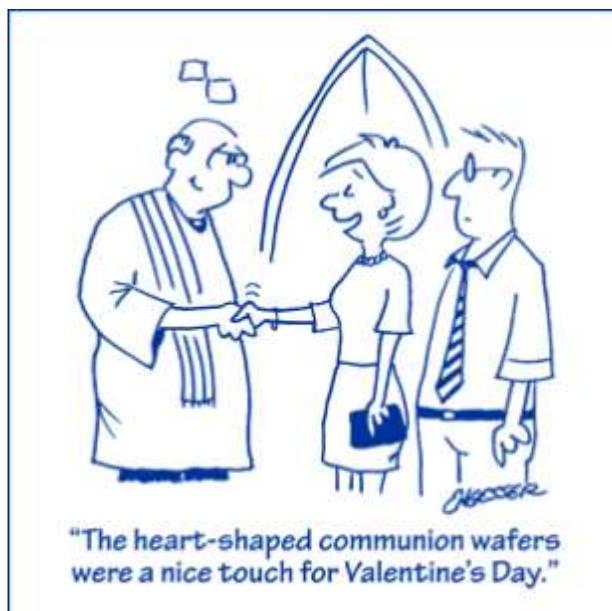
When you want to start a new novel, put down your Kindle or phone and pick up an actual book instead. A 2016 study from Dartmouth College compared the comprehension levels of students who did their reading via physical print-outs to students who used digital devices. They found that abstract concepts were easier to understand when read on paper. Students using only screens to learn had a much harder

We honor & celebrate all our members and friends who will celebrate **FEBRUARY** birthdays and anniversaries. (Lists are in the information area at the back of the sanctuary)



*Martha continues another year of her card ministry for the church covering 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, Martha!*

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](mailto:crossrdsbc@yahoo.com).



## RANDOM FUN FACTS

### **Fact: The bumblebee bat is the world's smallest mammal**

Weighing in at 0.05 to 0.07 ounces, with a head-to-body length of 1.14 to 1.29 inches and a wingspan of 5.1 to 5.7 inches, the bumblebee bat—also known as Kitti's hog-nosed bat—is the smallest mammal in the world, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. To see this tiny bat for yourself, you'd have to visit one of a select few limestone caves on the Khwae Noi River in Kanchanaburi Province of southwest Thailand.

### **Fact: There are parts of Africa in all four hemispheres**

For people whose education was largely focused on the Western world, it may be surprising to find out exactly how huge the continent of Africa is. For instance, it spans all four hemispheres and covers nearly 12 million square miles.

### **Fact: A one-way trip on the Trans-Siberian Railway involves crossing 3,901 bridges**

Not only is the Trans-Siberian Railway the longest railroad in Russia, but it's also the longest one in the world. The journey takes seven days, during which time passengers pass through eight different time zones and cross 3,901 bridges.

### **Fact: Wally Amos is responsible for making more than just cookies famous**

You may be familiar with Wally "Famous" Amos, thanks to his packaged chocolate chip cookies. But before he worked his magic on the sweet treats, he was in the business of making people famous, Biography reports. He discovered and signed folk duo Simon & Garfunkel and was a talent rep for acts like Diana Ross, Sam Cooke, and Marvin Gaye..

### **Fact: It takes a drop of water 90 days to travel the entire Mississippi River**

Spanning 2,340 miles, the Mississippi River is the third-largest watershed in the world. That's one long stretch of water. So long, in fact, that it takes one drop of water approximately 90 days to travel its entire length.

**Wouldn't it be great if we  
could put ourselves in the  
dryer for a short time**



(Excerpts from ReadersDigest.com - <https://www.rd.com/list/interesting-facts/>)



**January  
Average  
Monthly  
Attendance**

**Sunday Worship Attendance: 76  
Sunday School Attendance: 55  
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study Attendance: 23  
Ladies' Bible Study Attendance: 7  
Ladies' Breakfast Attendance : 5  
'Other Events' Attendance: 50 (Barry Ward Concert)**



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 has changed to the third Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m.
- The Men's IMPACT is on hiatus. Watch the announcements for the next Saturday 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.

# M

# issions News

- News from missions supported by Crossroads Baptist Church

## This month: Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

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.'"



## WHY WE'RE HERE

### Our Mission:

To place Christian chaplains in jails and prisons to minister to the spiritual needs of inmates and staff.

We believe the most effective tool for ministering to the needs of inmates and staff is the daily presence of a chaplain. The chaplain serves as pastor, counselor, mentor and friend to those who are incarcerated and the staff who guard and protect them.

Our programs and resources provide avenues for the community to participate as:

- Volunteers
- Financial Partners
- Mentors
- Re-entry Advocates

### Our Goals:

- **Impact on Incarceration Rates** – Transformed individuals are able to leave jail and prison with a new lease on life
- **Impact on Recidivism Rates** – Transformed individuals who discover new hope are less likely to reoffend and return
- **Impact on Families** – Transformed individuals are able to renew relationships with loved ones and become a positive influence
- **Impact on Communities** – When a life is changed, families and communities can be changed



## WHAT WE DO

It all starts with our mission: Placing Christian chaplains in jails and prisons to minister to the spiritual needs of inmates and staff. Good News has developed several practical, life-giving programs that introduce inmates and staff to Christ and help them grow in their knowledge of Him and His Word. Here are a few of the programs we use to do this:

### Serving Inmates:

**Worldwide Ministry** – Good News considers it a privilege to minister to serve 300,000 incarcerated men, women and youth daily in 22 states and 25 countries worldwide and more countries being added yearly. Our chaplains share the love of Christ to these inmates and staff, while facilitating the ministry of thousands of volunteers, too. In many foreign prison systems, inmates are not fed, clothed or provided medical care by the government. All of these essentials must be supplied through family or others on the outside. Good News international chaplains step in the gap, often serving as the "humanitarian" providers and the spiritual lifelines for inmates.

### Building Firm Foundations:

**The Bible Correspondence Course** – Good News helps inmates gain a deeper, more intimate knowledge of God's Word through our Bible Correspondence Course program. The curriculum developed and written by Good News, consists of over 400 individual Bible studies, requiring the inmate to study the selected book of The Bible verse by verse. The study begins with the Gospel of John and then moves through other books of the Bible and two general discipleship overview courses. Many of the courses are also available in Spanish.

After the inmate completes each lesson a volunteer grader provides feedback to encourage the inmate in their progress. When an inmate completes the all the courses offered they are awarded a Study Bible and other resources for their further spiritual growth.

### Discipleship Igniting Change:

**Life Learning Program (LLP)** – Good News knows all too well that a life of crime is a sad and destructive cycle. Without hope, guidance and most importantly God's Word, lasting change is only a dream. Good News is committed to igniting this change, as GNJ&PM President Jon Evans explains:

*"Good News life learning Programs offer a structured approach to teaching inmates the truths of God's Word. As they grasp what God has done for them in Christ, a flame of hope for their future is ignited, and many begin to believe for the first time that their lives matter. The transformations being seen here are dramatic and we invite you to join us in bringing the power of the Gospel message through LLP's intentional, relationship-based teaching and discipleship."*

The program is a biblically centered program designed to teach inmates how their world and personal view relates to every area of life. Key topics include:

- Acceptance as a person.
- Getting along with those around us.
- Forgiveness-What it means and what it accomplishes.
- How to handle "going to prison."
- How to handle "getting out."
- Responsibility and accountability to family, job and authority.



## OUR HISTORY

### From a Need, a Ministry Is Born.

In the early 60's, correctional chaplaincy was a function of the federal and state prison systems. Local jails might have area pastors ministering to them occasionally on Sundays, but on-site chaplains were non-existent.

Everything changed in 1961 when a young Bible college student in Washington, DC named Bill Simmer discovered that no one preached the Bible to inmates at the local county jail. At this moment, Dr. Simmer's vision of placing evangelical, Christian chaplains in local jails to minister to inmates was born. This vision came to fruition with the founding of Good News Mission (now Good News Jail & Prison Ministry). It also led to the placement of the ministry's first chaplain in the Fairfax County, Virginia jail.

In 1983, Dr. Simmer passed the leadership mantle to Harry Greene, whom he affectionately referred to as his "son in the faith." Ironically, in 1964, Harry had trusted Christ in the Arlington County, VA jail under the ministry of Dr. Simmer. When released from prison, Harry became a highly successful businessman while staying deeply involved with Dr. Simmer and Good News. During Harry's tenure as President, the ministry grew dramatically, from 30 chaplains then, to over 370 worldwide today. Harry continued in the position of President until his retirement in June 2012.

In September 2013, Jon Evans became the 3rd President of Good News Jail & Prison Ministry. Jon came to Good News after serving as a volunteer in Anne Arundel County, MD as well as 6 years as a member of the Good News Jail & Prison Ministry Board of Directors. With an M. Div and Th.M. from Capital Bible Seminary as well as 16 years of executive leadership in the Defense industry, Jon returned to his roots in ministry with Good News.

## CHANGED LIVES

Good News chaplains are fully embedded in the lives of prisoners, from booking to incarceration to release and beyond. Through their efforts, in 2017, Good News has helped administer:



78,000+

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST



275,000+

BIBLE LESSONS COMPLETED BY INMATES



1.2 Million

BIBLE LESSONS DISTRIBUTED

Crossroads Baptist Church supports local ministries including:

Good News Jail & Prison Ministry  
Pinal County Adult Detention Center  
Florence, AZ

\*All info from Good News Jail & Prison Ministry website. <https://goodnewsjail.org>

## Do You Know About The First Valentine?

*This month we will celebrate the holiday referred to as Valentine's Day. It is a time when we show others that we care for them. Small gifts of cards, candy, and flowers are part of the tradition.*

*But it might surprise you to find out that this holiday started out as a day to remember a Christian hero. According to the history books, Valentine was a 3rd century Christian preacher who lived near Rome. At this time the Roman Emperor Claudius II was ordering all young men not to marry. He thought they made better soldiers if they were single. No man could marry until he was too old to serve in the military. He also commanded that all people worship the false gods of Rome.*

*Valentine was arrested for performing Christian marriages and preaching that there was only one true God – the God of the Bible.*

*Valentine knew that no man – even the king – had the right to stop Christians from marrying (1 Corinthians 7:8-9). You see, while Romans 13:1-7 tells us that we are to respect and obey our leaders, Acts 5:29 tells us that when man's law contradicts God's law, we should obey God. And that's what Valentine did ignoring the king's orders. Claudius commanded Valentine's arrest.*

*While in prison, many Christians threw little notes of encouragement through Valentine's prison window. These were the first valentines.*

*In the end, Claudius had Valentine beheaded for his faith. It was because he loved the Lord and his fellow humans so much that he was willing to risk his life to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.*

*This gives us pause when we think of Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day represents much more than romantic love. It is a day that honors God and those who love Him ... and obey Him.*

Larry Fitzgerald, Abilene, TX

(<https://bulletindigest.com/2016/02/02/the-first-valentine/>)

## MANUSCRIPT EVIDENCE FOR ANCIENT WRITINGS

Author	Written	Earliest fragment/ copy	Time span	Number of manuscripts
Caesar	100-44 BC	AD 900	1,000 years	10
Plato	427-347 BC	AD 900	1,200 years	7
Thucydides	460-400 BC	AD 900	1,300 years	8
Tacitus	AD 100	AD 1100	1,000 years	20
Suetonius	AD 75-160	AD 950	800 years	8
Homer (Iliad)	900 BC	400 BC	500 years	643
New Testament	AD 40-100	AD 125	25-50 years	24,000



## A righteous man “PRAYS”

“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:16b)

### Praise

Psalm 113: 1-3 “Praise the Lord. Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.”

### Repentance

Acts 3:19 “Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,”

### Asking

Luke 11:9 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”

### Yielding

Mark 14:36b “Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

### Showing Gratitude

Psalm 107:21 “Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.”

~~Beth Silvers (1998)

# February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
American Heart Month Black History Month	Ntl Cherry Month Ntl Grapefruit Month	<b>1</b> • Int'l Pancake Day • Robinson Crusoe Day • Mardi Gras	<b>2</b> <b>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study</b> • Ash Wednesday • Ground Hog Day	<b>3</b> • World Read Aloud Day • Int'l Fake Mustache Day	<b>4</b> • Bubble Gum Day • Rosa Parks Day • Ntl Homemade Soup Day	<b>5</b> • Robot Day • CA Western Monarch (butterfly) Day
<b>6</b> <b>9 am-Fellowship</b> <b>9:30 am-Bible Study</b> <b>10:45 am-Worship</b> <b>The Lord's Supper</b> Pay-a-Compliment Day	<b>7</b> Rose Day Ntl Periodic Table Day	<b>8</b> Opera Day Boy Scout Day Ntl Kite Flying Day	<b>9</b> <b>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study</b> Ntl Pizza Pie Day Chocolate Day	<b>10</b> Ntl Flannel Day Umbrella Day	<b>11</b> Ntl Shut-in Visitation Day Ntl Make a Friend Day White T-Shirt Day	<b>12</b> Hug Day Abe Lincoln's Birthday Plum Pudding Day
<b>13</b> <b>9 am-Fellowship</b> <b>9:30 am-Bible Study</b> <b>10:45 am-Worship</b> Superbowl Sunday Galentine's Day	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> Ntl Hippo Day Ntl Gum Drop Day	<b>16</b> <b>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study</b> Ntl Almond Day Ntl Innovation Day	<b>17</b> Ntl Cabbage Day Random Acts of Kindness Day	<b>18</b> <b>8:30 am-Ladies' Breakfast @ iHop (NEW DAY)</b> Pluto Discovery Day Ntl Caregivers	<b>19</b> World Whale Day Iwo Jima Day Int'l Tug-of-War Day
<b>20</b> <b>9 am-Fellowship</b> <b>9:30 am-Bible Study</b> <b>10:45 am-Worship</b> Ntl Muffin Day Love your Pet Day	<b>21</b> Presidents' Day	<b>22</b> George Washington's Birthday Be Humble Day	<b>23</b> <b>5:30 pm-Prayer Meeting &amp; Bible Study</b> World Understanding & Peace Day	<b>24</b> <b>Game Day</b> Ntl Fake Mustache Day Ntl Chili Day	<b>25</b> Quiet Day (aka Ntl Don't Utter a Word Day)	<b>26</b> Int'l Tongue Twister Day Ntl Pistachio Day
<b>27</b> <b>9 am-Fellowship</b> <b>9:30 am-Bible Study</b> <b>10:45 am-Worship</b> No Brainer Day Int'l Polar Bear Day	<b>28</b> Ntl Science Day Ntl Tooth Fairy Day (& Aug 22)					

“Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it and it will be yours.”

Mark 11:24 NIV

# † Crossroads † Baptist Church Great Commission Church

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Church Office: 480-982-9120

Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Email: [crossrdsbc@yahoo.com](mailto:crossrdsbc@yahoo.com)

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

**Pastor: Rick Basch**

## **Deacons**

Hector Palma

Mike Tacker

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/>

