

Giving Report as of April 2021

Church	April	Year To date
Ames	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Bethlehem	\$ -	\$ 3,310.92
Billings	\$ 414.07	\$ 738.91
Byron Baptist	\$ 50.00	\$ 200.00
Calvary	\$ 61.00	\$ 171.19
Cherokee	\$ 1,487.44	\$ 8,742.30
Covington	\$ 227.30	\$ 751.55
CT Cowboy	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Emmanuel Enid	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Emmanuel Iglesia	\$ -	\$ -
Enid FBC	\$ 2,731.56	\$ 9,743.81
Fairview FBC	\$ 305.46	\$ 1,030.20
Garber FBC	\$ 198.56	\$ 740.94
Garland Road	\$ 1,148.00	\$ 2,504.00
Graceway	\$ 100.00	\$ 700.00
Grace Menn	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00
Hunter FBC	\$ 40.80	\$ 98.70
Int. Church of Grace	\$ -	\$ -
Liberty Southern	\$ 259.40	\$ 1,629.37
Living Water	\$ 50.00	\$ 170.00
Marshall FBC	\$ 158.65	\$ 589.44
Medford FBC	\$ -	\$ 551.90
Open Door	\$ 266.96	\$ 1,276.64
Perry FBC	\$ 688.56	\$ 4,238.19
Perry Kaw St	\$ 123.91	\$ 433.95
Pond Creek	\$ -	\$ 1,048.03
Ringwood FBC	\$ 386.44	\$ 3,079.77
Sumner	\$ 48.62	\$ 189.82
Trinity	\$ -	\$ 156.00
Your Family	\$ 144.51	\$ 589.70
BGCO	\$ 208.33	\$ 833.32
TOTAL	\$ 11,899.57	\$ 54,218.65

Church Needs

We have several pastorless churches that need prayers.

Please continue to lift them up.

- First Baptist—Enid
- First Baptist—Billings
- Enid Emmanuel Iglesia
- First Indian Church
- First Baptist— Pond Creek

May you be deserving of
praise.

Prayer Requests can be submitted
by calling, emailing and now
texting the association.

580-234-2512

cherokee.baptist@sbcglobal.net



CHEROKEE STRIP BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 5287 ENID, OKLA. 73702 May 2021 580-234-2512 E-MAIL cherokee.baptist@sbcglobal.net

SHIFT

2021 CHEROKEE STRIP BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

At our annual meeting the theme was SHIFT. Methods shift but the Message of the Gospel stays the same.
As we begin this year, let's stay true to God's Word and the Great Commission, advancing the Gospel
from CSBA to the ends of the earth!



May is filled with blessings



Garland Road Baptist Church



Billy Benson has been pastor there since March 2018. He and his wife Kari and their children are not

only leaders of the church but role models throughout the community.

Billy and Kari met at a New Year Eve lock-in at FBC McCloud in 2002. After returning from a mission trip Billy learned, much to his surprise and joy that God had placed him on Kari's heart. Kari was teaching Sunday school and had some rowdy boys that needed wrangling and the only wrangler she thought of was, Billy. She asked him to be her assistant and he readily said yes. That is how the story grows and continues for the two of them as they raise their children, and follow the path God prepared for them.

(A word of warning from Billy to me, during this interview, he said "Miss Trudi be careful what you volunteer for". he laughed that contagious laugh of his and we continued.)

Billy spoke so highly of his church in all the people behind their beliefs and mission. Some of the things he likes the best, is the size of the congregation.

People reach out to each other, and notice when they are there and not there. "There are many times when I call someone and I am the third person that has called". They are intentional about reaching different age groups. That is why they have one service. They do both Hymns and contemporary music. Led by Nicole Money Penny.



Billy also believes the quality of Bible teaching is outstanding. Helen Jack , who is 98 years old, still effectively teaches Sunday School. Zach and Nicole Money Penny, Kari Benson, and Ray Russell all do incredible jobs of teaching about Jesus and the Bible to various age groups, from preschool to senior adults.

Sunday Service Time
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 Worship

Wednesday
5:45 Church meal
6:30 Children's Savior Super Squad
6:30 Youth Bible Study
6:30 Adult Bible Study and Prayer

Continue to pray and support this church as it ministers to so many and has such a heart for God.

May God bless you and grant you long life.

Lets Meet the CSBA Teams.

Executive Team Members

Billy Benson	Moderator, Mgmt. Team Leader Vice Moderator
Kevin Strobe	Ministry Team Leader
David Morley	Treasurer
Dale Hamm	Missions Team Leader
Matt Spann	AMS
Trudi Bandy	Clerk

Management Team

David Morley	FBC Enid
Billy Benson	Garland Road
Steve Spade	FBC Cherokee
Jerry Shaeffer	Pond Creek
J.P. Redelsperger	Emmanuel Enid

Missions Team

Dale Hamm	Ringwood
Richard Stephens	Grace Mennonite
Kevin Hisey	Open Door
Jeremiah Herrian	Forgotten Ministries
Bruce Roberts	Graceway BC
Perry Walker	FBC Enid

Ministry Team

Kevin Strobe	Ringwood
Phillip Gregg	Covington
Jesse Johnson	Trinity
Nic Wilson	FBC Enid

Disaster Relief Team

Steve Williams	Calvary
Frank Hooper	Open Door
Matt Spann	Emmanuel

Matt Spann AMS is ex-officio member of all

Cherokee Strip Baptist Association

Birthday/Anniversaries May

May 1	Nic Wilson	FBC Enid
May 9	Don Todd	FBC Hunter
May 14	Kevin Strobe	FBC Ringwood
May 15	Phillip Gregg	FBC Covington
May 16	Tom LeGrand	FBC Garber
May 23	Kelly Cronkhite	Chisholm Trail
May 27	Charlotte Williams	Calvary

Happy Birthday!!

The art of letter writing is becoming obsolete, and yet we all love receiving cards and letters. Here are the address for the May birthdays and wouldn't it be lovely to send them a card? The answer is yes!

FBC Enid	401 W Maine	Enid, OK 73701
FBC Hunter	Box 22	Hunter, OK 74640
FBC Ringwood	Box 13	Ringwood, OK 73768
FBC Covington	Box B	Covington, OK 73730
FBC Garber	P.O. Box 315	Garber, OK 73738
Chisholm Trail	3514 E Willow Rd.	Enid, OK 73701
Calvary Baptist	831 E Broadway	Enid, OK 73701





May Calendar of Events

- May 2 Ordination of
~~Jerred Unruh~~
~~Nic Wilson~~
4:00 pm
FBC Enid.
- May 4 Leadership Lunch
12:00 to 1:00
Crucial Conversations
~~Perry Walker~~
- May 10 **MONDAY**
Leadership Lunch
12:00 to 1:00
Last one before summer
We are having a Luau
- May 10 ACC leaders meeting
7:00 pm at the
Association
- May 30—June 5
ACC Session 1&2
- May 31 Memorial Day
CSBA Closed.



Hello!

I have been asked to put a picture of myself in the newsletter and a brief biography.

I am the fifth of six children born to Bill and Jean Bandy in Bethany OK. My parents were church planters and established Mayfair Baptist Church in OKC. We moved to Enid when I was five, and quickly joined FBC. I lived in Enid for 30 years then moved to CA and lived there for 32 years where I sold real estate. I have a daughter, Bandy, son -in-law, Chris and granddaughter, Averie who are the loves of my life.

God needed me back here and in July of last year I came back. God opened a door for this position from someone I had merely met for 30 minutes. When God has a plan for your life, there is nothing He won't do to put you where you are needed. So, here I am writing a newsletter for Cherokee Strip Baptist Assoc. God is marvelous and oh so lovely to follow!

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
~~Jeremiah 29:11*

Recipes are important to me and my family. We exchange them, talk about them, refine them and most importantly we share them. At this past Executive Board Meeting after learning that Matt Spann love baked beans, my sister Toni share her Old Settlers Bean recipes. It was a huge hit, and there wasn't one bite left. I must admit they were very tasty. Enjoy!

Toni's Old Settler's Beans

1/2 lbs. bacon, fried, and broken into pieces
1 lbs. hamburger meat
1 onion chopped
1 green pepper chopped
1/3 c sugar
1/3 c brown sugar
3/4 c ketchup
1/4 c BBQ sauce
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
1/2 tsp chili powder
2 T molasses
2T mustard

1 can red kidney beans, drained
1 can butter beans, drained
1 can pork n beans drained
Fry bacon, break into pieces. Brown hamburger, onion and green pepper. Drain grease add all other ingredients EXCEPT beans. Place drained beans in the bottom of a 9X13 pan add ground beef mixture and stir to mix. Bake at 350 for one hour. Serves 10-12

***Note: if you add more meat be sure to increase amounts of sauce.*

If you have one you would like to share, please send it in.



Old Settlers'
Baked Beans

May you come to be a
shining name.



Nic Wilson, Youth Minister
FBC Enid will be our
Camp Pastor for Session 1

Phillip Gregg, Pastor FBC Covington
will be our Camp Pastor for Session 2

Contact either of them with questions.
nwilson@fbcenid.com
Phillip_gregg@hotmail.com

BCM

Semester Highlights:

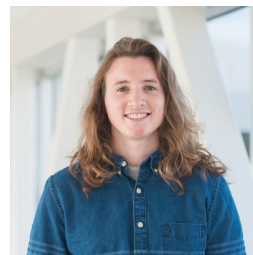
- Although we did not continue our large group lunches this semester as we have in the past or get the opportunity to feed the athletic teams as we had hoped, this freed me up to start a new lunchtime Bible study with a group of students who were already connected to the BCM but were unable to participate in our regular Wednesday night activities. Without our lunches, these students did not have any other way to stay connected with us, because they were all serving in their churches on Wednesday nights. So, we formed a new bible study just for these 4 students to continue encouraging them. I did not think much of this to begin with, but I can honestly say that this was the most fruitful part of the spring semester. These students were hungry to learn more and eager to learn more about ministry. Because they were all serving in their churches so much, I treated this group as a time for ministry training, and encouragement to help them persevere despite their busy schedules, and they ate up every bit of it! I have high hopes for how God is going to use these students, both now and in the future.
- We continued our Wednesday night Bible study and had a core group of 7 students attend that regularly. At the first of April, we got the opportunity to take a group of 14 to the Falls Creek Spring Retreat.

This was the largest group I have taken to this retreat since being at NOC, so that was something to celebrate! All our students really enjoyed the retreat. We all learned some helpful things to spur on our walks with Christ, and we had a blast bonding together as a group.

Prayer requests:

- Prayer for identifying a new student intern for the upcoming school year.
- Prayer for more opportunities to do campus outreach in the fall semester, as many of our attempts this year were not approved by the school. Prayer for opportunities to start ministering to students at NWOSU Enid. During my time with the BCM, I have focused fully on NOC, but this fall 2 of current leaders will be attending NWOSU. So, this seems like the best time to try to expand to both campuses.

Thank you all so much for your prayer and support of our ministry.



Justin Romaine
BCM Director

May He always shield you
from shame.



Seeking healing after abortion?

Join together with other women
who have walked this journey.
Confidential and free.
Find hope and healing.

For more information:
(580) 234-5660
JourneyHouseEnid@gmail.com

We had to say goodbye to a marvelous
beloved man. Dr. Greg Hook.

Through all his life when asked how he was,
through pain and heartache, he answered.
"I am blessed".

Greg, we were blessed to know you.

Well done, good and
faithful servant.

Matthew 25.:23



May the Lord protect and
defend you

Monday May 10th

is our last leadership
lunch
until September.



If you haven't come to one,
THIS is the one to attend.

Noon to 1:00 at the
Association.

Aloha!!

Y'all aren't
gonna believe what we have
planned!!

Mahalo!!



*If you have a Hawai-
ian shirt, now's the
time to wear it.*

May the Lord bless you
and keep you.



First Baptist Church Medford welcomes their
new pastor Marc Quattlebaum and his wife Ken-
dra. They will be moving here from North Dako-
ta hopefully arriving on May 12th. Marc's offi-
cial Sunday as pastor will be May 16th. Stop by
or send a card to welcome them.

First Baptist Church
124 W Comanche
Medford, OK 73759

August 28th

Pastor/Deacon/
Spouse Breakfast

Led by
Russell and Marsha Cook
More details to follow



Vacation Bible School

*Have you dug into your
calendar to find the treasured
dates to hold VBS?*

*When you do, let me know,
I can help.*

*Trudi Bandy
580-234-2512*

I can dig it!!



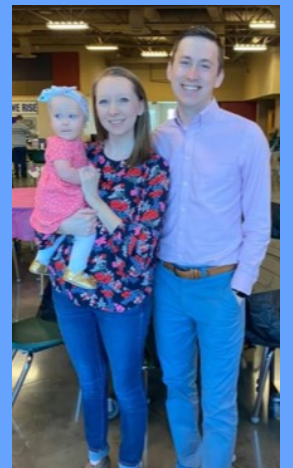
Let us Rejoice!!

May 2nd
Jerred Unruh Pastor
and
Nic Wilson Pastor
will be ordained

First Baptist Church Enid
401 West Maine
At 4:00 pm



**Jerred
Unruh**



**Nic
Wilson**

Matt's Message



CHURCHES AND T-SHIRTS

Well, it feels like we've come through the worst of the pandemic, at least here in NW Oklahoma. It's not quite that way yet in the rest of the world, but will eventually get there. There are basically two ways our churches seem to be responding. One is represented by the t-shirt that says, "**Back to Normal**" and the other by the t-shirt that says, "**Get Used to Different.**"

The first and probably most common response is the first one...Many of our churches are just re-gathering, happy that things are starting to feel normal again and picking back up where they left off, not changing or adapting to the new world in which we find ourselves.

The second response is rarer...For these churches, it's been a time to reset when starting back up again. They've seen this time as a time to reframe themselves, getting back to their original purpose and making sure what they're doing lines up with why they exist in the first place. They're adapting to the new reality we live in, a world in turmoil and a culture that's not just uninterested in Christianity but starting to actively oppose it.

Which will your church be?

Of course these are broad strokes, and most of our churches are somewhere in between these two extremes, but let's talk about the extremes.

The **first kind of church** is just happy to be together again and do what they were doing before this big interruption. Much of the energy of this church goes into taking care of the flock and making sure they're well-fed. Church has become like a refuge from a culture that's going off the deep end. It's nice to be back to what's comfortable and familiar. Some of the flock has wandered off during Covid and not come back, so a lot of energy is going into getting those people back. Some will come back, but others will stay away unless things change. It wasn't just because of Covid that they left. They're not opposed to new people coming to visit--in fact, there's a sign outside the church that says, "**We care--come and see.**"

The **second kind of church** is also happy to be together again but knows they can't do things like before. They've gone back to the original purpose of the church as a mission outpost to reach the world, a tool in the hands of God to accomplish His purpose of bringing all people into His Kingdom. They're eliminating church activities that are merely keeping people busy, but not accomplishing the purpose of the church.

They see a different world around them and are adapting to be more effective. Rather than focusing on the comfort of the members, they put their energies into engaging the community. They'd love to have members who've left come back, but they're focused on reaching new people. They have a sign on the way out of their back door that says, "**Go, show and tell the world that Jesus loves them.**"

Of course we all know and admit we should be that second church. In fact, if you've seen the new series about the life of Christ called "The Chosen," you might recognize "Get used to different," as a line Jesus says when Peter is shocked that Jesus would call Matthew the tax collector to be one of His disciples. *Seems like Jesus is pretty good at shaking things up when we become too complacent and predictable.*

We know that the old ways that weren't working before aren't going to work any better now. We know that our church shouldn't be like a **cruise ship** where the goal is the comfort and entertainment of the passengers but how do you transform such a ship into a **battleship**? How do you balance taking care of members while reaching out to the unchurched? And we know we shouldn't be stuck in the salt shaker but out in the world, yet how do you engage a world that thinks you're weak, ignorant, and intolerant for being a Christian? How do you have meaningful spiritual conversations with people who've already decided you're old fashioned and out of touch with how our culture has "progressed" in their eyes?

None of these questions has easy answers, but a big part of the answer is first for us **as leaders to adapt** our mindset to the new reality around us and to lead our church members to do the same. A lot of what we learned in seminary or thought we knew isn't going to apply. Members and leaders alike ***can't just rely on our past*** even though that's our natural impulse. Instead we need to be on our knees more than ever, looking to and leaning on our Sovereign Lord. He's still got the whole world (including us) in His hands! And He has a **clear mission** for each of our churches in His eternal purpose of seeing all peoples come into the Kingdom (Rev 7:9-10).

Matt Spann, CSBA Mission Strategist

