

First Baptist Church of Yantis

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will trust in thee...."

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celebrated five salvations,
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Powerful Words from a Five-Year-Old Girl

Pastor Danny Parker

Out of the mouths of babes. It slammed like a hammer. The statement from a 5-year-old girl hit home. The impact was greater than any preached message.

The story: We were heading home from vacation years ago. It was our first mountain driving trip as a family. Understand that Janice is a 'flatlander'. She had never even seen a mountain. Yet we had spent days driving through narrow, snake-like roads. Sometimes they had guard rails and sometimes not. More than once I was told (with intensity) to keep my eyes on the road (I love to sightsee when I drive). She freaked out every time I honked in a tunnel. I am not sure that Janice felt this was a 'relaxing' trip.

Now we were trying to get across Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park on our way home to Texas. Early Sunday morning we had come across the sign that said, 'Road Closed for the Season'. Oh no! it was covered in snow - it had not been opened for the summer yet! So, we turned around and went to church near Grand Lake. After church we tried one more time (it was a long way around if we couldn't go through the pass). And sure enough, it had opened in the last few hours. Oblivious, on the way we went.

Continued...

Once we got above the tree line, it happened. Snow suddenly came on us! Heavy snow! A serious thundersnow. Within minutes we couldn't see. The roads were covered and slick. There were no guardrails anywhere. Then it quit snowing (a blessing?), and we could see a million miles into the distance – just not the road itself, because the blowing wind caused a white-out along the road surface itself. There were no guardrails anywhere, just steep dropoffs. As we made a curve and headed to the summit of the pass, the motorcycle in front of us lost control – fortunately he slammed into the 10 foot drifts against the hill rather than plummeting down the side. You could see the terror in Janice's eyes. Her hands leaving imprints in the car's hand rests. Then the voice came from the backseat. Our 5 year old daughter confidently declaring with a calm voice, "Mom, what time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." She declared the truth of Psalm 56:3. In crisis? Be calm. Trust in the Lord.

To this day, the words still return to our lives. We will sometimes laugh about it. We sometimes remind each other of it in a serious way. We will smile, but underneath it all is a powerful reminder. When I am afraid, there is one I can trust. When the world is out of control, there is one I can trust. When I don't know what to do, there is one I can trust. When I am uncertain about tomorrow, there is one I can trust.

And the promise is true for anyone. Life was never intended that we could do it on our own. Always, the Lord intended that we trust in Him. We don't. We resist. We trust in anything but Him. And thus we fear. We feel the danger. We become lost in the chaos.

Yet, He pursues us. He died for us, so that He could pursue us - so we could respond. Often in love He engulfs our sight so we cannot see on our own. He allows us to find ourselves on slick pathways. He lets us place ourselves in dangerous places. Some around us totally lose their way and wreck. But in our terror, confusion, uncertainty, and fear He speaks "What time you are afraid, trust in Me." Such a simple truth that a 5 year old could get it. Such a profound truth that when even a 5 year old spoke it, it had the weight of eternal truth. Because it is eternal truth. Let's do it – Trust Him. When we are afraid – and every other moment of our lives as well.

August Activities

Fall is in our sites (not the weather, but the activity).

Before we discuss this month's activities, let us praise God for the many baptisms that have occurred this summer. Four adults, two children, and 3 youth were baptized, for a total of nine. That brings us to twelve baptisms this year. May we rejoice and praise Christ. This should be a normal pattern for a healthy church.

Men's breakfast occurred on August 1 with local pastor Jimmy Rogers speaking. (May have completed by the time you read this).

In honor of our teachers, we conduct two special meals every year. The first (at the request of the superintendent) includes items packaged together in a grocery bag, that each teacher can take home and cook themselves to provide a great spaghetti dinner. We work alongside Seymore Church to provide the ingredients to give to the teachers. Then the next morning, Wednesday, August 5. FBC workers cook and provide a full breakfast for all the teachers and staff of Yantis Schools. The time includes special gifts and prizes. We typically have about 60 attends from the school. It's great to honor these special folks.

Gather with us for a church picnic on August 16 at 5:00. Don't worry, we will be inside the Faith Life Center (think cool) to enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs (did someone say watermelon?). Bring the family and invite a friend.

Wednesday, August 19 will mark the beginning of our regular after school program. This is one of the most extensive ministries of our church. Children and youth will engage in fun, Bible instruction, music, and food. What a rewarding time of investing in young people.

A quarterly celebration of the Lord's Supper on Sunday morning, August 30, will mark the end of the August activities.





Authentic Youth Update

Pastor Dennis Wagner

What a month it has been! Early in July our students traveled to Mt. Lebanon camp, and we came home carrying stories we'll be telling for years. God moved powerfully, not just in our group, but across the students from every group that gathered that week. By God's grace we celebrated **five salvations, three students deciding to follow Jesus in obedience through baptism, and three calls to ministry.** Please join us in praising God for that harvest.

A week like that doesn't happen by accident, and it doesn't happen alone. Christine, Lonny, and Sam were each used greatly by God to shepherd, encourage, and point students to Jesus all week long. We are so grateful for leaders who pour themselves out for these kids. I'm very thankful also to everyone who prayed for a student/leader that week, and to everyone who generously gave so we could take twenty students.

And here's what's been most encouraging of all: the fire from camp didn't stay at camp. Since we've been back, our students have kept showing up for one another. We dressed like cows for Cow Appreciation Day at Chick-fil-A (yes, there are pictures), gathered for weekly Bible studies and hangouts, served together on a project at the school, and burned off some energy at the trampoline park. Increasingly, our students are taking real ownership – of this group and of their own walk with Jesus. That's exactly what we've been praying for.

Looking ahead to the school year

The school year begins on **August 10**, and there is plenty going on as we make the turn and plenty to lift up in prayer.

Your Church Staff

Pastor: Danny Parker

Youth Pastor: Dennis Wagner

Senior Adult: Steve Couch

Music Leader: Craig Ingram

Secretary: LeAnne Bauer

Church phone: 903-383-2393

Email fbcyantist@peoplescom.net

Youtube :@FBCYantis

Website <https://fbcyantist.com>

Sign-up for the NEW FBC YANTIS Church notification system.

This will allow you to connect with the Church for continuous updates on events, prayer requests, communications, and more. The current prayer chain will be replaced with this one.

Easy to do!

On your smart phone, open the messaging app to write a new message. In the (To:) field where there is normally a phone number type this number instead: **84576**

In the message field type: **fbcyantist**

Push the send icon.

You will receive a welcome message from the Church with a link to your personal account where you can update your name, email, and many other options!

Please contact the church office if you need assistance.

Serving our school staff. On **August 5** we'll host and serve a breakfast for the staff at the school, and alongside Seymore Bible Fellowship we'll be providing a take-home spaghetti dinner for every staff member. Praying these gestures would speak of love and honor over the people who serve our students every day.

Youth Kickoff Party – August 15. On the evening of the 15th, we'll cast the vision for this school year and pray over our students. Pray that students and their families would come out, catch the vision, and be blessed.

A student-led Bible study at school. Many of you have prayed over this for a long time, and it's coming together! Our high schoolers are planning to start a Bible study at lunch. Pray for God to raise up leaders in the middle school to do the very same thing.

Courage to be baptized. A few of our students are ready to take the step of baptism. Pray for the courage they need and for the support of their families.

Wednesday ministries resume – August 19. Both our children's and youth ministries kick off for the 2026/2027 school year. Pray for every leader to be rejuvenated and freshly led by God.

Would you partner with our youth leaders? Youth ministry is often grueling work, but it's also deeply rewarding. Would you specifically pray for our team: Dennis & Sam, Wayne & Christine, Lonny & Quata, and Keith? Pray for a sustainable and sold-out year; for wisdom as we plan and lead; for boldness, open ears, and open hearts; for minimal distractions but maximum fun; for growing relationships; for a deeper desire and love for Jesus in leaders and students alike; for student leaders stepping up; for open doors at the schools and with families; for safety over all of us; and most of all, that God would be greatly honored and glorified this year.

"Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" — Matthew 9:37–38 (ESV)

P.S. – If you think God could use you in our youth ministry, holler my way! Let's see how you fit in on our team!!



Volunteer at First Baptist Church

If you are interested in joining our volunteer ministry, we have many opportunities to choose from. Contact the Church office for more information. Email: fbcyantist@peoplescom.net Phone: 903-383-2393

We are currently looking for assistance in the following areas.

- **Children's ministries** need teachers for Wednesday after school kids 2026/2027 school year and weekly Sunday School/Children's Church.
- **Hospitality** is a good place to show off your skills in the kitchen while providing relief for our current volunteer staff.
- How about joining our **Praise Team**! Let your talent uplift our congregation on Sunday mornings.
- Do you have an interest in the **Audio and Visual** industry? Helping in the A/V booth is a great place to start.