

First Baptist Church of Yantis

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At last! Summer is over!

Pastor Danny Parker

By faith I write this article. A big rain event should have occurred by the time you read this. (If not, just wait a minute - it's coming). My phone forecast predicts as many as five days of likely rain - and cooler temperatures. I'm officially announcing the end of this brutal summer. By faith.

Texas summers are often like this. Day after day of intense heat. Beating down every living thing. And with it no rain. Reserves get diminished. Even plants with the deepest root systems suffer. Nothing lives without water. Even the Bahai grass goes dormant. Pastures are eaten to the nubs as livestock remove every leaf they can reach. It's as if all life will soon cease to be. All hope of relief seems to disappear.

However, ultimately a break occurs. Rain comes. Temperatures drop. The dry season ends. To survive, plants have reached deep into the soil. They have unburdened themselves from all that is mere peripheral - casting aside the unnecessary. The hardship has created something strong. What is left responds immediately. Overnight life returns. Prosperity reigns.

Continued

So is with our Christian lives. Dry times come. Intense pressure beats upon us. Will it ever end? Can we survive?

But as we look back upon our lives, these times have been here before. Seasons change. Hard times come. But rain is on the way. And it's not just 'natural' seasons. The God who cares about us is in control. He allows the tough times so that we can be refined. So that we will unload the unessential. So that we will focus on the critical - on Him. And then He brings the rain. The temperature drops. Once again, His prosperity reigns in our lives. He gives strength to mount up with fresh strength.

(ESV) Isaiah 40:29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. 30: Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31: but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Creation is full of examples of how God works. But in our lives His work exceeds what He does in His creation. He is intentionally at work in us. Molding us. Making us. Increasing our faith. Drawing us to Himself. Giving us His strength to continue. Though the Texas summers in our lives seem to endure forever at the time, we know better. By faith we expect them to pass. And in the passing we are strengthened to better walk with Him.



October Activities

The Semiannual Senior Rally at Lakeview is on Thursday October 8. Sign up in the foyer by music minister's office. A group will leave the church at 7:30 AM. Usually back by midafternoon. If you have any questions, please see Steve Couch for details.

Janice and I will be on vacation from October 12 - October 25. Dennis Wagner and Steve Couch will be preaching on the respective Sunday mornings. David Schwadlenak will be teaching the Tuesday night Men's Bible Study. A combination of Wayne Miles, Mickey Head, and Craig Ingram will be teaching Danny's Sunday School class. This will be a great time to have a bit of a change up with the different speakers/facilitators.

Fall Fest!! Coming Saturday, October 31, 3-5 PM. This is one of the biggest true outreach activities of the year. Last year we ministered to about 200 local area folks. We need lots of help. Prior to that day, bring bags of candy that we will distribute via games and other activities on that day. Sign up to bring cakes for the Cake Walk. And most important, help man the various games, activity booths, food areas. This is a chance for everyone (regardless of age or physical condition) to minister to the community, especially to young families and kids/youth. Sign up to help or just show up and help. Don't miss it.

In late Fall we usually have a 'Day of Renewal' featuring a guest speak in the Sunday AM service and a special PM service as well. This year on Sunday, November 1, another man that highly influenced my preaching/teaching will be speaking. Dr. John McCart, served as executive pastor of Lavon Drive Baptist Church and founder/principal of Garland Christian Academy, LDBC's premier Christian school. Brother John is an outstanding speaker and man of God. This will be a special day.



Authentic Youth Ministry

Pastor Dennis Wagner

Church family,

What a month it has been in Authentic Youth! God has been moving among our students, and I'm grateful for the chance to share a few highlights and ask for your prayers as we head into October and November.

See You at the Pole

On Wednesday, September 23rd, about 40 people gathered around the flagpole for See You at the Pole, and it was completely student-led. A huge thank you to John, Letty, Devyn, and Sam, who organized and led with maturity and a real heart for Christ. Together we prayed for our schools, our community, and our nation, took a public stand as a witness for Jesus, and heard the gospel clearly presented. It was a joy to watch our students step up and lead their peers.

We carried the theme of prayer into that evening with prayer stations, and John led the teaching. Watching students grow from sitting in the room to leading the room is one of the greatest joys of youth ministry.

Teaching in 1 John

We've been walking through 1 John, and we'll continue through October. John gives us clear marks of what it looks like to truly be in Christ: what we believe, how we obey, and who we love. Our prayer is that our students would not just know about Jesus, but have real assurance that they belong to Him, and that it would show in how they live.

Your Church Staff

Pastor: Danny Parker

Youth Pastor: Dennis Wagner

Senior Adult: Steve Couch

Music Leader: Craig Ingram

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Senior Adult Ministry

Pastor Steve Couch

- ✚ The Fall Sr Adult Rally at Lakeview Retreat will be Thursday 08 October 2026. The cost is \$20 per person.
- ✚ Please sign up by Monday October 5, 2026 so I can reserve our headcount with Lakeview Camp.
- ✚ We will leave the church at 7:30. Rides will be available.

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

Coming Up

October 21: We're excited to welcome evangelist Jon Harper to speak to our students. Please pray for open hearts and for students to respond to the gospel.

November 11: We'll host a glow-themed Invite Night focused on sharing the good news of Jesus. Please pray that our students will invite their friends, and that those who don't yet know Christ will come and hear the gospel.

A Personal Prayer Request

Sam and I are expecting our baby near the end of October, though it could be any day now! Please pray for a healthy delivery and for our family during this season. Please also pray that things run smoothly while we're away. I have so much trust in our incredible team: Wayne, Christine, Lonny, Quata, and Keith. We're also excited to welcome our newest team member, Taylor! Our students are in great hands.

Thank you for loving, supporting, and praying for our students. We couldn't do this without you!



October – Let Us Worship Together

Craig Ingram

As we enter the beautiful month of October, I am reminded of how quickly the seasons change. The cooler mornings, changing leaves, and familiar rhythms of fall give us another opportunity to stop and recognize God's goodness and faithfulness.

As a church family, one of the greatest privileges we have is the opportunity to **worship together**.

I encourage each of you this month to make worship a part of your daily life, not just something we do on Sunday morning. Sing a hymn while you are working around the house. Listen to a worship song on your way to work. Take a few moments to thank God for His blessings and faithfulness. And when we gather at First Baptist Church, **come ready to sing!** Whether we are singing a beloved hymn from the hymnal or a newer worship song, let us sing with our whole hearts. You don't have to be a great singer to worship God—God desires a heart that is willing to praise Him.

I am thankful for each person who faithfully participates in the music ministry of our church. From our musicians and praise team to everyone who joins us from the pews, **your voice matters**. Together, we can encourage one another and glorify God through the gift of music.

May October be a month in which we intentionally look for reasons to praise God. He has been faithful in the past, He is faithful today, and He will remain faithful in all that lies ahead. **"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised."** – **Psalms 48:1**

I look forward to worshipping with you throughout the month of October!

Fall Fest Is Coming!

Fall Fest is coming up **Saturday, October 31 from 3–5 PM!** This is one of our biggest events and outreaches of the year. Last year, we served well over 100 kids and parents, giving out candy and treats while showing these families the love of Jesus.

This year, we are excited to hand off leadership to **Mrs. Debbie Head**, and I know she will do an excellent job leading this event!



There are **four things we need from our church family:**

1. PRAY

Pray that kids will come, that we will have enough leaders, that God will open doors for Gospel

conversations, and that we can clearly show Jesus' love to these families.

2. DONATE CANDY

There is a donation box in the foyer outside of Dennis' office. We need candy to give out as prizes for our games.

3. BAKE

We need cakes and other goodies for the cake walk!

4. VOLUNTEER

We need a lot of hands to help make this event possible. There is a signup sheet on the foyer table. There is something for everyone, and there are plenty of ways you can help.

Thank you for helping us make Fall Fest a great outreach for our community!